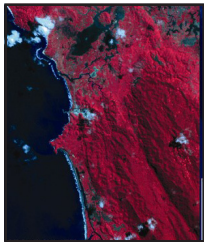


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The Eagle

United States Army Space and Missile Defense Command

Volume 12, Number 3, March 2005

3rd ID assumes Task Force Baghdad mission

First division-level
space support element
part of contingent

**By Spc. Emily J. Wilsoncroft
3rd Infantry Division
American Forces Press Service**

BAGHDAD, Iraq — The 3rd Infantry Division officially jumped back into action here Feb. 27, when a transition-of-authority ceremony transferred command of Task Force Baghdad from Army Maj. Gen. Peter Chiarelli, 1st Cavalry Division commander, to Maj. Gen. William G. Webster Jr., 3rd Infantry Division commander.

"Today marks the passing of the torch for advancing the freedom of the people of Baghdad," Chiarelli said during the ceremony at Baghdad's Sahet Alihtifalat Alkubra (Ceremonial Circle) parade grounds. "The 1st Cav. drew upon the important lessons gained by those who preceded us, and our sincere wish is that we have contributed wisely to the 3rd ID in their preparation for this mission."

The 1st Cav. has had elements in Iraq since relieving 1st Armored Division Soldiers. Now, after more than a year serving as Task Force Baghdad headquarters, 1st Cavalry Soldiers are heading back to the United States.

With the giant crossed-swords statues looming over the parade grounds, the transition was presided over by Army Lt. Gen. John Vines, Multinational Corps Iraq commander.

"Today, we welcome Maj. Gen. William

Webster and Task Force Rock of the Marne back to Iraq," Vines said. "Twenty-two months ago, your division spearheaded coalition forces' attacks as it fought its way to Baghdad, leading to the toppling of Saddam Hussein and his imposed tyranny on the Iraqi people. Twenty-two months ago, you stood on this very ground in victory."

Vines congratulated Chiarelli and the 1st Cavalry Division for a job well done, referencing Iraq's successful Jan. 30 elections and other benchmarks of progress. "Together, you and our Iraqi partners improved the way of life for the Iraqi people, conducting more than 800

See **Baghdad Mission**, page 9



Courtesy photo

First Space Support Element joins 3rd Infantry Division

In August 2004, the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command, in direct support to the Army's Task Force Modularity, equipped and activated the Army's first unit of employment (UEX) Space Support Element (SSE). The activation took place after more than seven years of materiel experimentation and four years of concept and doctrinal development. The Army's first SSE is comprised of three space operations officers. The element chief is Lt. Col. George Andary, left. He is supported by Maj. Cliff Hodges, Maj. Jim Rozzi, and one noncommissioned officer, Staff Sgt. Ronnie Anglin, not shown, whose MOS is 25S, satellite controller. The SSE supports the 3rd Infantry Division, which is currently deployed in Iraq serving as the Multinational Division – Baghdad.

M3P enters testing at White Sands Missile Range

**Bravo Detachment
1st Space Company**

The Multi-Mission Mobile Processor (M3P) began the first phases of testing at White Sands Missile Range, N.M., Feb. 7.

Fourteen Soldiers of Bravo Detachment, 1st Space Company, have been preparing to run the system through field-testing to ensure its operational readiness prior to it replacing the Joint Tactical Ground Stations that are currently providing ballistic missile early warning around

the globe.

The M3P is designed to process defense satellite program satellite infrared data to provide ballistic missile early warning and battlespace characterization to combatant commanders worldwide. The system is a joint venture between the U.S. Air Force and the U.S. Army.

Under the leadership of Chief Warrant Officer 2 Santiago Gonzalez and Sgt. 1st Class Ronald Quinata, Bravo 2 completed new equipment training for the M3P at the Lockheed Martin facility in Boulder, Colo., and moved to

White Sands to conduct field testing.

Over the past few weeks the Soldiers have been conducting battle drills, emplacing the system, bringing it into operation and then preparing it for tactical movement.

The Soldiers were pleased to move from the classroom environment of Individual Qualification Training to the field environment of White Sands. Battle drills provide for a long day and some hard work, but it's a refreshing change and the Soldiers took to it vigorously. The Soldiers displaced and emplaced the

system and brought it to full operational capability over five days.

Fielding a new system has presented unique challenges. The Soldiers have helped to develop the system beyond its initial operational capability and have provided feedback on improving the system for U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command.

The next step will be SST-9000 field testing and then full operational testing, which will continue until mid-August. Fielding of the M3P is set for 2006.

The Command Corner



Lt. Gen. Larry J. Dodgen
Commanding General



CSM David L. Lady
Command Sergeant Major

Our nation's engagement in the Global War on Terrorism (GWOT) will likely be a protracted one, and providing the forces and doctrine to win this war remains our Army's number one priority. Our adversaries have shown themselves to be adaptive and ruthless in their attempts to erode our resolve and that of coalition efforts. The expansive reach of the terrorist organizations and the possible use of weapons of mass destruction are areas of particular concern. Meeting these unprecedented challenges requires new concepts, organizations and training methodologies.

The lessons the Army has learned during the past three years have resulted in the identification of several areas where additional emphasis is needed to ensure our capabilities remain applicable and responsive, now and into the future. You have likely seen several articles and news reports explaining how the Army and Department of Defense are restructuring its systems and priorities. Within the past couple months, several key documents have been published that address these challenges and sharpen the Army's efforts "to remain relevant and ready by providing the Joint Force with essential capabilities to dominate across the full range of operations." Gaining an appreciation for our military's evolving requirements and this command's responsibilities in supporting joint warfighters is imperative for all members of the SMDC team.

The Army Strategic Planning Guidance (ASPG) 2005 serves as the Army's institutional strategy and principal long-range (10 to 20 years) planning document by conveying the senior leadership's intent for how the Army will fulfill its Title 10 obligations to the Joint Force and the nation. Included in the ASPG are 10 Army Strategic Imperatives, which include three new Army Focus Areas. The Army Posture Statement (APS) is published annually and provides an unclassified summary of Army roles, missions, accomplishments, plans and programs. The 2005 APS describes how the Army is executing the overarching strategies needed to accomplish its mission while supporting transformation.

The ASPG and APS share several fundamental concepts, all of which have great relevance for SMDC:

- **The importance of providing relevant capabilities, including technology initiatives, quickly and efficiently.** SMDC's ongoing efforts to leverage capabilities in the areas of Joint Blue Force Situational Awareness, commercial imagery, persistent surveillance, assured satellite communications and missile early warning have been instrumental to joint warfighters. These capabilities will become increasingly vital for the Future Force. Stand-up of the Joint Functional Component Command — Integrated Missile Defense will be another important capability.
- **Ensuring Army Forces are reset and configured in formations with capabilities that enable them to be rapidly deployable and strategically responsive.** Army Transformation is central to meeting the challenges of the future and is vital to both the Army and the nation. SMDC contributions, notably with our initiatives involving Space Support Elements and Army Space Support Teams, are key to operationalizing space in support of joint warfighters. The ongoing efforts to create and develop a well trained space cadre will provide commanders and their staffs with the expertise, access and tools to make maximum use of space assets in all phases of operations.

See Planning Guidance, page 7

We are an Army at war, supporting a nation at war. While more than a third of the Army is deployed in support of the Global War on Terrorism, those Soldiers not deployed have an opportunity to compete for selection as Department of the Army Soldier and Noncommissioned Officer of the Year for 2005. This competition will take place in September. Space and Missile Defense Command will support this Army professional development program by conducting the SMDC Soldier and NCO of the Year program.

This program provides special recognition to enlisted Soldiers who have demonstrated outstanding military excellence and achievement in pursuit of their daily duties. The selectees are chosen on the basis of their outstanding leadership qualities: superb bearing, military courtesy and conduct; and mastery of core Soldier combat tasks. They will possess an outstanding military record and will have positively contributed to military and community activities.

All active and reserve component SMDC Soldiers are eligible to compete for selection. Candidates for Soldier of the Year are at rank private through specialist. Candidates for NCO of the Year are corporal through sergeant first class.

The SMDC selection process has three phases: unit selection, regional selection and major command selection. Unit selection takes place at company/detachment, battalion and brigade level. Four regional selection panels are then convened, to consider unit selectees in four geographic regions: Pacific (units in Korea, Alaska, Japan, Hawaii and Kwajalein Atoll); Western (units in California, Texas and Colorado); Eastern (units in Maryland, Virginia and Florida); European (units in Germany, Qatar and elsewhere in Central Command).

These regional panels are chaired by the command sergeants major of both 1st Space and 100th Missile Defense Brigades, 1st Satellite Control Battalion and 1st Space Battalion. They will be held in April and May.

This year's SMDC Selection Board will meet in Colorado Springs, Colo., June 20-24. SMDC's command sergeants major comprise the selection panel. The competition will be based on the results of both hands-on events and a selection panel appearance. The eight candidates (a Soldier and NCO of the Year from each of the regions) will first zero and qualify with the M16 Rifle. They will take the Army Physical Fitness Test. They will then appear before the selection panel in their Class A green uniform, prepared to present a briefing on an Army leadership topic (they are allowed five minutes to brief the panel on their position/recommendation; no audiovisual aides) and to answer questions on a wide range of common leadership and common Soldier tasks subjects.

The panel uses the question and answer process to not only confirm the Soldier's subject-matter knowledge, but to evaluate the Soldier's military bearing, confidence and speaking ability. The scoring process is specially weighted, so that the hands-on tasks matter as much as the panel experience. The selectees must be able to "know and do."

On June 24, the SMDC Soldier and NCO of the Year 2005 candidates and selectees will be recognized at an award ceremony in Colorado Springs. The selectees will represent SMDC at the Army Soldier and NCO of the Year competition, to be held in Washington, D.C., and Fort Lee, Va.

This is an excellent opportunity for first line leaders and commanders to nominate their best leaders and most technically

See Soldier of Year, page 7

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Lew Who?

Long time instructor retiring after 19 years of government service

By Dennis H. Tracey
Operations Analyst, Alpha Company
1st Satellite Control Battalion

When I approached the mayor of Frederick, Md., to have Jan. 19 declared Lew Frasier day, I got the response “Lew Who?” Well, the city of Frederick didn’t honor the impending retirement of Lew Frasier, but the Soldiers and civilians of Alpha Company, 1st Satellite Control Battalion, certainly let Lew know he was appreciated.

Lew Frasier has been a living legend in the Defense Satellite Communications System Operations Center (DSCS OC) world for many a year. I cannot think of any “Pit Dog” still working in any DSCS OC who did not learn the art of being a Communications Payload Controller (CPC) from anyone but Lew. This has been his legacy since 1986 when he started teaching the DSCS III Spacecraft and the ground control system, the Production Satellite Configuration Control Element, (SCCE) affectionately known (or cursed) as the “Sissy.”

The SCCE Operations Room equipment used to be arranged in the shape of a horseshoe and became known as the “Pit.” This equipment provided the operator all of the telemetry coming from the satellite, which provides a picture of the health and welfare of all systems aboard the spacecraft. The CPC then sends commands to the satellite for

communication payload re-configuration or “housekeeping” commands needed for daily performance of the “bird.” This is not a menial task, but one of immense responsibility. The Air Force equivalent of the CPC is an officer.

Lew taught a comprehensive four-week course in which Soldiers learned the systems aboard the satellite and the SCCE equipment. But the training did not end there, as now, a 16-week Partnership With Industry must be endured by the newly trained operator and an experienced operator ensuring that Lew’s training was re-enforced by precision execution of all phases of SCCE operations. Only then is the fledgling controller allowed unsupervised operations with the “Sissy.” A DSCS III spacecraft is irreplaceable and cost nearly a billion dollars apiece when we still had them to launch.

Lew had already served America well, joining the Navy in 1946, becoming an instructor in aircraft avionics and retiring as a lieutenant commander (O-4). Pushing 80 when teaching his last class (then again we have heard for the last decade that each class was the last one), Lew still could knock out his pushups with the troops.

Lew deserved special recognition for his contributions to SMDC and a handshake

with best wishes wasn’t enough for me. Looking around my office, I spotted the Signal Corps Regimental Association award that “War Woman,” Lt. Col. Mearen Bethea had given to me upon her departure as commander from 1st Satellite Control Battalion.

This was where I found the opportunity that I never had as an enlisted Soldier. I could write the justification (which I plagiarized from an article the Soldiers had written about Lew in *The Eagle*) with nominating letter and send it to Signal Towers at Fort Gordon, Ga. Normally an endorsing letter from a general is required for the award I found, but after I answered one question, the award was issued without another endorsement.

In front of the Soldiers and civilians of Alpha Company, I had the honor of promoting Lew Frasier to the rank of Brevet Colonel. An orange and white ribbon with the medal, engraved with his name and medal number on the back was placed around his neck. He is entitled to wear this medal at any formal function, and a special frame was purchased by the command to allow him to remove the medal for wearing.

It saddens me to think that in the future whenever someone mentions Lew to new controllers that they will say “Lew Who” and truly not know the legacy of this remarkable man. Lew, enjoy your retirement — you earned it. America thanks you.

Commentary

What We Think

The Eagle asks:

What is your tax preparation plan for this year?



Ed Kiker
Office of the Chief Scientist
Colorado Springs, Colo.

I just use H&R Block like I have for many years. I don’t have a complicated return as my income is this office. My return is relatively simple to prepare.



Michael Irvine
Operations and
Plans, G-3
Arlington, Va.

Throughout the year we keep records of all the things we do that have tax implications, such as donations, etc. Sometime before April 15, I load TurboTax software into the computer, and just follow the instructions. Because I have been doing this for several years, the software just updates from the previous year. It actually goes quite fast — about three hours. I have been electronically filing for three years, so even the refund is quick.



1st Lt. Rory Bradford
1st Satellite Control Battalion
Intelligence, S-2
Colorado Springs, Colo.

I intend to go to Fort Carson and use the tax preparation facility that the Judge Advocate General (JAG) legal section has set up.



Vairy Spencer
General Engineer
Technical Center
Huntsville, Ala.

My tax strategy is to start planning early. I keep good records all year long, seek help from tax professionals about deductions and file early. My taxes are already done, and I have my refund back.



Master Sgt. Frances Sanchez-Jones
Information Management, G-6
Colorado Springs, Colo.

I do my own as well as others in the Command and I strongly encourage everybody to save all receipts, supporting documentation and paperwork connected to any and all income and expenditures for the past year. This will make the preparation very easy when it comes time to fill out the forms. This paperwork needs to be saved for at least three years.



Brinkley Wehner
SY Coleman, Operations
and Plans, G-3
Arlington, Va.

My “strategy” usually starts around mid-February with frequent reminders from my wife, who has been keeping our tax file during the year, anxious to know if this will be a “refund year” or a “pay-even-more year.” I then obtain the latest version of TurboTax and crunch the numbers. If this is a “refund year,” I expedite the filing process. If we owe money, I postpone filing till the due date — sorry Uncle Sam. Between tax preparation software and electronic filing, the process is not too bad these days; record keeping is still challenging.

Spectral Operations Resource Center supports tsunami relief efforts

By Ed White
SMDC Public Affairs

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. — In the aftermath of the devastating tsunami in Asia on Dec. 26, 2004, people from all over the world were filled with overwhelming compassion for those affected. From across the globe came assistance in the form of money, food, shelter and much more. But some members of U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command were able to provide a different type of aid — satellite imagery.

The Spectral Operations Resource Center in Colorado Springs, Colo., produced three main types of scenes in their imagery to support the relief effort — highways and road systems, before and after scenes and land saturation.

"We were pulling imagery of the affected areas the day after the tsunami," said Chris Russelavage of the SORC, who was the key technician in providing satellite imagery requested by U.S. Pacific Command and the 8th Army — the units directly involved in the support efforts for tsunami survivors.

"The Sumatrans had one main highway running along the coast that was their principal shipping artery," Russelavage said. "We sent

them satellite imagery of what remained after the tsunami. This was key to getting relief supplies delivered throughout the countryside quickly and effectively.

"The before and after scenes showed locations of population areas, among other things so that searchers would know where to look for survivors, and the soil saturation views showed levels of saturation of agricultural areas."

Yet relief support is nothing new for the SORC. "We have a long history with disaster support," said Bo Dunaway, chief of the SORC.

In 1998 the SORC provided imagery for relief efforts with the flood in Honduras. They also brought fresh imagery to firefighters in the Western United States during the disastrous fire seasons of 2000 and 2001, allowing firefighters to track the movement of the fires and find the locations of hotspots.

In 1999 and 2000 SORC imagery supported relief efforts in the Venezuelan floods, and in 2003, their images were used to help provide relief to the earthquake-devastated region around Bam, Iran.

"These efforts are paper products but they touch an untold number of lives," Dunaway said of their efforts.



Photo courtesy of Spectral Operations Resource Center

This Spectral Operation Resource Center satellite image, produced four days after the tsunami, shows standing water across Banda Aceh after the disaster.

"There is no telling how many people receive direct relief sooner, faster and more frequently because we can provide these products to the forces and agencies doing the relief efforts."

Dunaway credits space operations officers for helping make SORC products available to field commanders in a rapid, timely manner. "Those guys on staff are able to be our voice. They can tell that commander there is this capability called the SORC back in Colorado Springs, and let them know exactly what we can do and how

they can best utilize us."

For the tsunami relief efforts, the SORC provided products from Jan. 4 through Feb. 9.

"We sent scenes on Sumatra, Sri Lanka and Thailand. About 95 percent of the scenes were for Sumatra though," Russelavage said.

The overall knowledge and experience in dealing with prior disaster relief efforts gave the SORC a powerful edge in assisting with the tsunami relief work and most certainly will give them an edge in whatever the future may bring.

Vice chief praises tech advances, urges more

By Ali Bettencourt
Army News Service

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. — Projected onto the screen larger than life so that the more than 500 conference participants could see, a lone Soldier knelt in the mud of Mosul. His head bowed, what at first looked like an extension of the mountains behind him, soon came into focus as a mountain of equipment born on his weary back.

Gen. Richard A. Cody, vice chief of staff of the Army, challenged the crowd at the opening session of the Association of the United States Army Winter Symposium Feb. 23, on why the photo, taken during the early days of the Iraq war, doesn't represent what "right looks like" for Army Soldiers on today's battlefield.

"That Soldier will carry a 70-pound rucksack; he's a good infantryman," Cody said. "But 110 pounds? Is this Soldier equipped for agility against an adaptive enemy?"

Pointing to the picture, Cody paused, "Never forget that Soldier is your customer," he said. "Our job is to get this right for them."

Cody spoke during the opening session of the symposium titled, "Science and Technology Enablers for a Joint and Expeditionary Army." Speaking to a crowd of military officers and civilians, contractors and industry and academic partners, Cody outlined the advances the Army has made since the onset of the

Global War on Terrorism and the work still to be done.

"Back during World War II, the nation was shocked and horrified by German U-boat attacks on allied fleets," Cody said.

"American ingenuity quickly found a solution with sonar and other technology. How will history judge our success against improvised explosive devices, suicide bombers and other asymmetric threats?"

"This conflict calls for focus and intensity in our science and technology communities," Cody continued. "As you look at (Soldiers' faces) you must ask yourself, are we giving them everything they need and are we getting it to them quickly enough?"

Cody praised the advancements that have been made over the last three years, highlighting the comprehensive, joint and rapid work that has been done to combat improvised explosive devices through the Joint IED Defeat Task Force; to provide improved individual Soldier equipment through the Rapid Fielding Initiative; and to introduce new technological solutions to the battlefield through the Rapid Equipping Force initiative.

"This is a different Army today," Cody said. "Our Soldiers aren't afraid of new technology, they embrace it. They want us to push the envelope, in fact, they challenge us to push it."

While visiting the Program Executive Office for Simulation, Training and Instrumentation in Orlando, Fla., the day before the symposium, Cody saw first-hand

the cutting edge work the Army is conducting in the live, virtual and constructive simulation training world to help prepare Soldiers for combat.

Representatives from Lockheed Martin and PEO STRI provided a demonstration of the new War Simulation system, a computer-based simulation tool that supports brigade, joint and coalition command and staff level training. WARSIM can simulate all levels of conflict — from a major theater of war to stability and support operations, providing commanders realistic, integrated and tough training, officials said.

While addressing a crowd of more than 200 PEO STRI personnel, as well as simulation personnel from the other services and contractor and industry partners, Cody praised the community's hard work and contributions to the Global War on Terrorism.

"Do not judge your relevance to this fight by your proximity to the battlefield," Cody said. "You are absolutely vital to this effort and to our Soldiers. If one of our (OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM veterans) could be here today, they would stand up and thank you."

Concluding both presentations, Cody reminded the audiences that in the end, everything they and the Army do is for the Soldier — the centerpiece of the Army.

All our Soldiers ask of us is great leadership and the right equipment and training," Cody said. "We can't let them down."

'Constant Vigilance' takes command in Qatar

By Spc. Joshua Williams
Unit reporter

CAMP AS SALIYAH, Qatar

— As the New Year rolled in, so did a new Joint Tactical Ground Station section, replacing the crew that had served as the 2nd Section, Alpha Detachment, 1st Space Company, and had kept watch of the Central Command Theater for slightly more than 13 months.

An energized section comprised of Soldiers from Colorado Springs, Colo., and El Paso, Texas, took command of their new area of operations. The new section, known by their motto "Constant Vigilance," is led by Chief Warrant Officer 2 Christopher Hall and Sgt. 1st Class Ronnie Price, both from Colorado Springs. Hall officially took charge Jan. 11.

Before the outgoing section left, the two teams were joined and the



Photo by Sgt. Dawn White

The 2nd Section, Alpha Detachment, 1st Space Company, a.k.a. 'Constant Vigilance.'

motivated and has a strong knowledge base."

With 11 months to go, there is little doubt that "Constant Vigilance" is up to the task of missile warning for the CENTCOM Theater. "I had reservations at first with the mixing of Soldiers and Sailors from three different areas (Texas, Colorado and Germany), but given their professionalism, qualification training and results of our first month together, I have no more doubt that our section is ready for the year ahead," Hall said.

With less than one month of boots on the ground, there was plenty of excitement with the promotion of Pfc. Theodore Fuller to specialist, Spc. Michael Scott's first Good Conduct Medal and a visit from Alpha Detachment's Commander Capt. Anthony Behrens and First Sergeant, Sgt. 1st Class Keese Pond, to oversee the proper change-of-command.

The chore of change-of-command inventory and squaring away supply needs was laid upon Sgt. Dawn White, the 2nd Section Supply NCO, and Sgt. Annie Holland, 1st Space Company's Supply NCO. "Change-of-command inventories aren't normally part of my job," White said. "The most difficult part was getting the supplies we needed. We had to coordinate with other bases in the theater to get certain



Photo by Sgt. Dawn White

Pfc. Theodore Fuller is promoted to specialist by OS2 Frank Serio and Sgt. 1st Class Ronnie Price.

items, but Sgt. Holland was in the lead and it was a good learning experience for me."

It was quite a whirlwind, but the first month of deployment for "Constant Vigilance" has been a huge success.



Photo by Sgt. Dawn White

Spc. Michael Scott, right, is awarded his first Good Conduct Medal by Capt. Anthony Behrens, Alpha Detachment's commander.

professionalism of both ruled the day. Outgoing personnel worked with incoming Soldiers to bring them up to speed on day-to-day operations to ensure a smooth changeover. The departing section was finally relieved of duty and returned home to take some well-deserved time off. Their unit motto of "Everyday I do" will be re-established as they continue to support their mission back in Colorado Springs.

All eyes are now turned to "Constant Vigilance." Everyone on the team is excited to be doing his or her part in support of OPERATIONS IRAQI and ENDURING FREEDOM. Spc. Jonas Moody expressed his feelings of being in Qatar by saying, "Serving in this capacity is like being the support element of a football team — not a player on the field, but still a vital part of the game."

With the additional leadership of overlapping Navy coverage, the first month was a great success. When asked how he felt about the new crew, OS2 Frank Serio said, "The new section is vibrant, highly



Photo by Sgt. Dawn White

Members of the 2nd Section, Alpha Detachment, 1st Space Company, perform change of command inventory.

Civilian News

SMDC appoints NSPS program manager

Doug Ennis, a senior manager in Huntsville, Ala., who works for the deputy to the commander for Research, Development and Acquisition, has been named the National Security Personnel System program manager for the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command. Ennis is tasked with putting together a working group, which will have the responsibility of ensuring the successful transition from the current “GS” system into a system that is designed to provide a more flexible, agile civilian work force capable of meeting the current needs of the Army and the Department of Defense.

Scholarships deadline approaching rapidly

The 2005-06 Federal Employee Education and Assistance Fund scholarship program is now accepting applications. Completed applications must be postmarked no later than Friday, March 25, 2005. The eligibility and academic criteria are listed on FEEA’s Web site at www.feea.org in the Educational Assistance area. A downloadable version of the application is also available on the Web site. To receive a printed application, you can send a self-addressed, stamped #10 envelope to: FEEA Scholarships, 8441 W. Bowles Avenue, Suite 200, Littleton, CO 80123-9501. FEEA is a private, nonprofit 501(c)(3) agency, primarily funded through federal employee contributions to FEEA CFC Pledge #1234 and donations to special relief funds. FEEA has provided more than \$4.5 million in scholarships to civilian federal employees and their dependents. For more information about FEEA visit the Web site or call 303-933-7580.

Department of Defense seeks people with language skills, regional expertise

If you speak a foreign language or have the desire and aptitude to learn one, Uncle Sam wants you. The Defense Department is on the lookout for people with language skills to support not only current operations, but future ones as well. And just as important as language skills is an understanding of other countries’ geographies, cultures and people. To help boost language skills, DOD has launched or plans to introduce several new initiatives. For more information go to http://www.military.com/NewsContent/0,13319,dod1_020305.00.html.

DFAS changes Web site address

The Defense Finance and Accounting Service public Web site has changed from <http://www.dfas.mil> to <http://www.dod.mil/dfas> as of March 1. The current site will remain available until March 31. After that date, users will be redirected to the root level of the new site at <http://www.dod.mil/dfas> and direct links to pages at the previous site will generate an error message notifying users of the move. This move will enhance the performance of DFAS public Web site, provide redundancy to prevent down time and provide opportunity for enhanced features in the future, said DFAS officials. The new hosting of DFAS’s public Web site will increase the speed of the site by more than 12 times; provide redundancy to prevent down time; improve search capability to allow DFAS content to be found on any [dod.mil](http://www.dod.mil) sites; and creates stronger alignment between DFAS and DOD public Web sites. For more about DFAS visit www.dod.mil/dfas.

Proposal to benefit retirees’ pocketbooks

Legislation to allow federal and military retirees to pay their health insurance premiums with pre-tax money was introduced March 1, in the Senate and House by Sen. John Warner, R-Va., chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, and Rep. Tom Davis, R-Va., chairman of the House Government Reform Committee. That is according to an announcement by the National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association (NARFE), which supports the legislation. The bills would amend the tax code to allow these retirees the same benefit that active federal civilians already have of paying for insurance with pre-tax dollars. If the bills are passed into law, the amount that retirees pay for health insurance premiums would be subtracted from the amount of their income reported to the IRS; they would be paying tax on less income.

Military News

Scam targets families of service members killed in action

Officials with the Department of Homeland Security are warning the public about two new Iraq-related Internet scams, including one directed at the relatives of fallen U.S. Soldiers. The first scheme involves e-mail sent to relatives of U.S. Soldiers killed in Iraq. Claiming to be a volunteer working with U.S. forces, the sender states that a late friend, who also was a U.S. Soldier killed in Iraq, was a very good friend of the relatives’ slain son or daughter. The sender then goes on to ask for assistance in obtaining funds kept for them by the deceased friend, promising more details when the relative responds to the e-mail. The sender then adds a link to the portion of Immigration and Customs Enforcement’s actual Web site discussing ICE operations in Iraq. In the second scheme, a blanket e-mail is being distributed that claims to be from an Immigration and Customs Enforcement official in Iraq who is responsible for tracking down funds looted from the Iraqi Central Bank by Saddam Hussein’s son. The sender lists the ICE’s Web site address in the e-mail in an effort to seem credible. The sender then asks for confirmation of the e-mail address of the recipient, stating, “there is a very important and confidential matter which I want us both to discuss.” The ICE Cyber Crimes Center in Virginia, in conjunction with the ICE Office of Professional Responsibility, is investigating the schemes. Those who receive the bogus e-mail solicitations should ignore and delete them.

FA40 Training Conference set for May 31-June 3

The 2005 FA40 Training Conference will be held May 31-June 3 at the Westin Hotel in Long Beach, Calif. The conference is open to FA40 space operations officers, related military space professionals and DA civilians and support contractors. The intent of the annual conference is to ensure FA40s and other space professionals are updated on key space issues that impact the Army and to exchange information on how to best integrate space capabilities to support commanders and DOD decision-makers. FA40s from throughout the Army attend the conference and share their experiences, lessons and perspectives from their “foxhole” on issues ranging from current operational support to future space concepts related to Army Transformation. The next order benefit is the opportunity to strengthen the FA40 and Army Space professional community by meeting all the officers and hearing from the senior leadership. The conference will include presentations and panels addressing current space operations issues, the status of the FA40 career field, operational support and career-related instruction. As well as attending the FA40 Training Conference, attendees will participate in the 2005 Association of the United States Army Greater Los Angeles Chapter Symposium, which is being held during the same timeframe at the same location. Optional industry tours and social activities are also planned. More information on the conference is available on the Web at: <https://sonet.smdc.army.mil> and <http://www4.army.mil/FA40/index.php>.

Airport gate passes for military passenger family members

Family members of military passengers may now be given a pass to escort the military passenger to the gate or to meet a military passenger’s inbound arrival. The family member can now go to the airline the military member is flying on and receive a pass to go to the gate. The family member will be required to have a pass and a photo ID to get past security checkpoints

Brewery offers theme park admission

The Anheuser-Busch Company will again open the gates to its SeaWorld, Busch Gardens and Sesame Place theme parks for free as a way of saying thanks to service members and their families. The company offers a free single-day admission to service members, including Guardsmen and Reservists, and as many as three “direct dependents.” The offer runs through Dec. 31. Eligible service members can register for free admission online or in the entrance plaza of participating parks. A DOD photo ID must be presented at the gate before entrance, he added. Military family members also can take advantage of the offer without their military sponsor; however, an adult must accompany minor children.

Proposed Personnel System updates old way of doing business

The National Security Personnel System (NSPS) will modernize an outdated civil service system and allow human resources to attract, recruit, retain and manage quality civilian employees.

Highlights of the NSPS include:

- Simplified pay banding structure
- Performance-based pay increases
- Expectations set by supervisors
- Streamlined hiring process
- Efficient processes to address problems

NSPS will not change:

- Benefits
- Merit system principles
- Veterans preference
- Leave and work schedules

The Army and NSPS

In a Feb. 11 memo, Army Secretary Francis J. Harvey encouraged Army civilians to demonstrate support of the program. Sec. Harvey is committed to making NSPS a success.

The Assistant Secretary of Manpower and Reserve Affairs will oversee the execution of NSPS. G-1 will manage the implementation and coordination among major commands (MACOMs) and the Army staff.

Initial deployment (Spiral One) plans for three deployments over 18 months. The Army will have about 24,000 employees in Spiral One to include the Corps of Engineers, Army Medical Command, Army Materiel Command, Space and Missile Defense Command and the Civilian Human Resources Agency.

For more information go to <http://cpol.army.mil/library/general/nsps/>.



Army Civilian Corps Creed

I am an Army Civilian – a member of the Army Team

I am dedicated to the Army, its Soldiers and Civilians

I will always support the mission

I provide stability and continuity during war and peace

I support and defend the Constitution of the United States and consider it an honor to serve the Nation and its Army

I live the Army values of Loyalty, Duty, Respect, Selfless Service, Honor, Integrity, and Personal Courage

I am an Army Civilian

Planning Guidance

continued from page 2

• **Development and sustainment of infrastructure, training and support capabilities for Soldiers, families and a quality work force.** Renovation and construction of quality-of-life and operational facilities at Fort Greely, Alaska, and the Reagan Test Site, on Kwajalein Atoll, training programs for Functional Area 40 Space Operations officers, implementation of the National Security Personnel System and a robust Army Family Action Program are all great examples of where SMDC capabilities are being brought to bear.

The Army has displayed extraordinary dedication and professionalism in its 230 years of service to the nation.

These same attributes are evident today as more than 315,000 Soldiers are deployed, stationed overseas or securing the Homeland. The challenges for the future will be significant, but are not insurmountable with our determined efforts.

For those who may have not yet heard, this past month the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) named the crew for an upcoming Space Shuttle mission for launch to the International Space Station (ISS) in 2006.

Col. Pat Forrester, commander of the Army Astronaut Detachment, along with five other crewmembers will participate in mission flight STS-117 that will be responsible for delivery of energy systems and the second starboard truss segment to the ISS. This will be Col. Forrester's second Space Shuttle mission, having flown on STS-105 (Discovery) in August 2001. We wish Col. Forrester well as he trains with his fellow crewmembers for the upcoming Shuttle mission.

Secure the High Ground!

Soldier of the Year

continued from page 2

accomplished Soldiers for MACOM and Army-level recognition. Preparation for the program is first-rate professional development. There are dozens of fully qualified candidates, and it is generally difficult for the

panel to decide on the "best of the best."

Our 2004 selectees, Spc. Daniel G. Everly and Staff Sgt. Curtis L. Kimbrell, did very well at the Army competition, and distinguished themselves in the weeklong Department of the Army competition.

Displaying excellent attitude

and the Warrior Ethos, they forged through each event as a team. They were great representatives of the Army's newest MACOM.

Fellow leaders, look within your teams and "volunteer" your best Soldiers for this program. Each individual and each unit will benefit from

their participating in this program. Even in time of war, great armies do everything well. Let us conduct this program well.

ON POINT!

Awards/Promotions

Civilian Promotions

John G. Gard, GS-11, Colorado Springs, Operations, G-3, Blue Force Tracking Branch
Gary F. Indihar, GS-14, Huntsville, Technical Center, Systems Directorate Matrix
Donald Powers, GS-13, Colorado Springs, Engineering Division, Operations Branch
Paul D. Schambach, GS-14, Colorado Springs, Intelligence, G-2, Intel/Security Branch

Military Promotions

Sgt. Michael Brondsema, Landstuhl, Germany, C Company, 1st SATCON Battalion
Spc. Christopher Brumwell, Camp Roberts, Calif., D Company, 1st SATCON Battalion
Sgt. 1st Class Clifton Goodwin, Colorado Springs, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Space Battalion
Sgt. Evevetta Crawford, Fort Buckner, Japan, E Company, 1st SATCON Battalion
Staff Sgt. Brandon Deaton, Colorado Springs, 2nd Space Company, 1st Space Battalion
Spc. Aaron Deir, Fort Detrick, Md., A Company, 1st SATCON Battalion
Sgt. Stacylyn DelaHoz, Fort Meade, Md., B Company, 1st SATCON Battalion
Spc. James Flynn, Colorado Springs, Detachment B, 1st Space Company, 1st Space Battalion
Spc. Theodore Fuller, Colorado Springs, 1st Space Company, 1st Space Battalion
Maj. Erik Heinz, Colorado Springs, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Space Brigade
Spc. Nick Himelick, Fort Meade, Md., B Company, 1st SATCON Battalion
Spc. Michael Hopper, Fort Detrick, Md., A Company, 1st SATCON Battalion
Sgt. Mary Kiser, Fort Meade, Md., B Company, 1st SATCON Battalion
Spc. Eric Ludwig, Fort Buckner, Japan, E Company, 1st SATCON Battalion
Staff Sgt. Jason Martinez, Colorado Springs, 2nd Space Company, 1st Space Battalion
Sgt. Charles Mercier, Fort Detrick, Md., A Company, 1st SATCON Battalion
Sgt. Jennifer Mroz, Landstuhl, Germany, C Company, 1st SATCON Battalion
Sgt. Christopher Phaneuf, Fort Meade, Md., B Company, 1st SATCON Battalion
Sgt. Andrea Stanek, Colorado Springs, Detachment C, 1st Space Company, 1st Space Battalion
Spc. George Stratakos, Colorado Springs, Detachment C, 1st Space Company, 1st Space Battalion
Sgt. William Strong, Fort Detrick, Md., A Company, 1st SATCON Battalion
Spc. Jesse Vendegna, Colorado Springs, Detachment B, 1st Space Company, 1st Space Battalion
Spc. Ivan Virruet, Colorado Springs, Detachment B, 1st Space Company, 1st Space Battalion
Spc. Brian Yoder, Colorado Springs, Detachment C, 1st Space Company, 1st Space Battalion

On-the-Spot Cash Awards

Carolyn F. Cantrell, Huntsville, Technical Center, Information Science and Technology Directorate Matrix
Carl P. DeFranco, Colorado Springs,

Information Management, G-6, C3 Integration Division
Franklin J. Ellis, Huntsville, Technical Center, Advanced Technology Directorate Matrix
Donald G. Green, Huntsville, Chief Information Office, Communications/Visual Information Division
Stephanie J. Johnson, Colorado Springs, Future Warfare Center, Battle Lab, Space Directorate
Karen D. Krypel, Huntsville, Intelligence, G-2, Security Branch
William H. Mobley, Huntsville, Technical Center, Kinetic Energy Interceptor Directorate
Francoise N. Standifer, Kwajalein Atoll, USAKA/Reagan Test Site, Command Judge Advocate Office

Special Act Awards

Steven M. Brozo, Colorado Springs, Information Management, G-6, Consolidated Wideband SSE and Transformational Communications
Phillip M. Burroughs, Huntsville, Technical Center, Kinetic Energy Interceptor Directorate Matrix
Max M. Delgado, Colorado Springs, Information Management, G-6, Consolidated Wideband SSE and Transformational Communications
Barbara C. Dixon, Huntsville, Technical Interoperability and Matrix Center
Richard Gonzalez, Huntsville, Technical Center, Test and Evaluation Directorate Matrix
Gregory M. Greenemeier, Huntsville, Kinetic Energy Interceptor Directorate Matrix
Dolores G. Holden, Huntsville, Intelligence, G-2, Security Branch
Jeffrey J. Kohr, Colorado Springs, Future Warfare Center, Battle Lab, Space Directorate
Timothy W. McDonald, Colorado Springs, Information Management, G-6, Consolidated Wideband SSE and Transformational Communications
James M. Miskelley, Huntsville, Technical Center, Kinetic Energy Interceptor Directorate Matrix
Daniel E. Porreco, Colorado Springs, Information Management, G-6, Consolidated Wideband SSE and Transformational Communications
Henry E. Sikes, Huntsville, Tech Center, Directed Energy Directorate Matrix
Kathy A. Simmons, Huntsville, Intelligence, G-2, Security Branch
Dennis R. Stout, Huntsville, Intelligence, G-2, Security Branch
Zachary A. Stovall, Huntsville, Technical Center, Directed Energy Directorate Matrix
Brenda S. Turner, Huntsville, Intelligence, G-2, Security Branch
Steven P. Twynham, Huntsville, Chief Information Office, Information Assurance Division
Patricia S. Vittitow, Huntsville, Technical Center, Systems Directorate
Jonathan E. Williams, Huntsville, Technical Center, Kinetic Energy Interceptor Directorate Matrix
Charles Woodson, Colorado Springs, Information Management, G-6, C4 NETOPS/Plans Division

Time-Off Awards

Alesia K. Barger, Huntsville, Personnel, G-1, Plans, Policy, and Training Division

Mark W. Bingham, Colorado Springs, Intelligence, G-2, Plans and Operations Division
Robert E. Brown, Colorado Springs, Intelligence, G-2, Plans Branch
Owen B. Carleton, Colorado Springs, Intelligence, G-2, Plans and Operations Division
James C. Davenport, Colorado Springs, Information Management, G-6, Regional Satellite Control Support Center
Kerrin E. Denham, Colorado Springs, Intelligence, G-2, Plans Branch
Robert L. Dunaway, Colorado Springs, Intelligence, G-2, Operational Support
Michael A. Haskins, Colorado Springs, Intelligence, G-2, Plans and Operations Division
Ron K. Irons, Colorado Springs, Intelligence, G-2
Norma J. Jenkins, Colorado Springs, Intelligence, G-2, Plans and Operations Division
Augustin Larraga, Colorado Springs, Intelligence, G-2, Plans and Operations Division
Michael R. Nifong, Colorado Springs, Intelligence, G-2, Plans and Operations Division
Jeffrey L. Phillips, Colorado Springs, Information Management, G-6, Consolidated Wideband SSE and Transformational Communications
Paul D. Schambach, Colorado Springs, Intelligence, G-2, Intel/Security Branch
Craig S. Seiler, Colorado Springs, Intelligence, G-2, Plans and Operations Division
Daniel J. Selman, Colorado Springs, Intelligence, G-2, Plans and Operations Division
Zakiyyah S. Shakoor, Huntsville, Personnel, G-1, Plans, Policy and Training Division
Douglas W. Smith, Colorado Springs, Intelligence, G-2, Intel/Security Branch
Tracy D. Staab, Colorado Springs, Intelligence, G-2, Plans Branch
Pamela L. Tingle, Colorado Springs, Intelligence, G-2, Plans and Operations Division
Roger D. Ward, Colorado Springs, Intelligence, G-2, Operational Support
James M. T. Williams, Colorado Springs, Intelligence, G-2, Plans Branch
Joseph W. Wychulis, Colorado Springs, Intelligence, G-2, Plans and Operations Division

Length of Service Awards

30 Years

Robert Goodman, Huntsville, Technical Center, Systems Directorate
Donald Montoya, Colorado Springs, Public Affairs Office
Denise Owens, Huntsville, PARC/Office of Contracting and Acquisition, Branch N

25 Years

Bonnie Draper, Huntsville, Business Initiatives Office
Luana Holmes, White Sands Missile Range, HELSTF
Birtha Otey, Huntsville, Technical Center, Directed Energy Directorate

20 Years

Gloria Flowers, Huntsville, Future Warfare Center, Simulation Development Division

Security officer receives Germany's coveted Silver Cross of Honor

By Sgt. 1st Class Dennis Beebe, SMDC Public Affairs

PETERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Colo. — For his support to the U.S.-German partnership while stationed in Bad Aibling, Germany, one U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command Soldier received special recognition.

Lt. Col. Gerhardt Weber, the German Air Force Liaison officer to the U.S. Air Force Academy, presented Lt. Col. Michael W. Childers, SMDC G-2, the coveted Silver Cross of Honor of the German Armed Forces at a ceremony on Peterson Air Force Base, Colo., Feb. 23.

In making the presentation, Weber represented the German Defense Minister, Dr. Peter Struck, who signed the award.

The medal is based on the



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Dennis Beebe

Close up of the Iron Cross Medal awarded to Lt. Col. Michael W. Childers Feb. 23.

Iron Cross awarded to German soldiers for bravery. The Silver Cross of Honor received by Childers is a version of the Iron Cross that, in special cases, is awarded to foreign military members who demonstrate an extraordinary dedication to cross cultural activities that foster understanding and mutual support.

The award was presented to Childers in recognition of his assistance and commitment in supporting the U.S.-German partnership when he served as the commander, 105th Military Intelligence (MI) Battalion, 66th MI Group in Bad Aibling, Germany, from June 2002 to June 2004.

"His leadership and cultural understanding were instrumental in strengthening German-American friendship. He proved to be an outstanding representative of the U.S. Armed Forces," Weber said of Childers.

Childers integrated German Reserve Officers of the German Air Force Technical School Number One into various partnership activities between the two countries. These activities included participation in all ceremonies, changes of command, lying of wreaths at the German/Allied cemeteries on Veterans Day, weapons qualifications and sports training. They also took part in fund-raisers that helped support the family readiness group. When Bad Aibling was officially closed, the reservists were involved in all the station closing activities.

"Our German partners supported us wholeheartedly in every activity," Childers said. "I was especially impressed with their willingness and



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Dennis Beebe

Lt. Col. Gerhardt Weber, left, presents Lt. Col. Michael Childers the Silver Cross of Honor of the German Armed Forces on Feb. 23 in ceremonies on Peterson Air Force Base, Colo. Weber is the German Air Force liaison officer to the Air Force Academy.

ability in fund raising. These fund-raisers were instrumental in supporting all our mutual activities."

The history of the Iron Cross derives from German Knights of the 14th century. In 1813, King Friedrich Wilhelm III of Prussia established the Iron Cross as a military honor. It was a way to pay tribute to brave soldiers who were involved in the Napoleonic Wars.

The symbolism of the decoration originated from the legend of the Goddess of Peace. When her Quadriga, a two-wheeled chariot drawn by four horses, was retrieved from Paris at Napoleon's fall, the Goddess was re-established atop Berlin's Brandenburg

Gate. An Iron Cross was substituted for her laurel wreath, making her into a Goddess of Victory.

Over the course of the following 140 years, the Iron Cross has also been issued as an award for bravery in battle as well as other military contributions.

In 1955, when the new German Armed Forces were founded, the stylized Iron Cross became the insignia of the *Bundeswehr*. Awarding of the Honorary Cross as a symbol of love, freedom, gallantry and courage, has to be approved by the German president and is then awarded by the German defense minister for extraordinary fulfillment of military duties.

Baghdad Mission

continued from page 1

civil engineering projects totaling more than \$104 million in Baghdad," he said.

"You've sponsored 14 Iraqi police academies, rebuilt 600 schools, conducted more than 70 electrical projects totaling \$1.8 million and contributed \$8.3 million in grants to Iraqi businesses," he continued.

"Finally, under Task Force Pegasus Tutelage, the 40th Iraqi National Guard Brigade took control of its own operational area in Baghdad, marking the first time an Iraqi brigade has done so. Without question, you have positively touched every aspect of Iraqi life — truly a phenomenal feat!"

Vines also emphasized the need to continue the hard work that began with the elections. "As great and historic a day as Jan. 30 was for the Iraqi people — and

frankly the world — it was not the ultimate goal, which is a free and secure Iraq," Vines said. "We, the Iraqi government and the coalition, know there is still much work to be done, but Iraq's progress to date is both extraordinary and irreversible."

Chiarelli welcomed the Marne division and expressed his confidence in the division's Soldiers and commander. "The 3rd ID is well trained, led by gifted officers and noncommissioned officers, and blessed with great Soldiers," Chiarelli said. "The division is poised to ensure Baghdad moves powerfully toward complete self-sufficiency. The people of Baghdad have a partner in the 3rd Infantry Division as committed to the mission as any they will ever see on their streets.

"Maj. Gen. Webster, you've been a great friend to the Cav.," Vines said. "And I know that the people of Baghdad will embrace you and your Soldiers as warmly

as they have the 1st Cav.

"Baghdad has a special place in the history of the world, and it stands on the precipice of greatness once again," he added.

Upon taking command of Task Force Baghdad, Webster acknowledged the responsibility given to him and the Marne Soldiers and accepted the mission at hand. "The 3rd Infantry Division has trained hard and is ready," he said. "We will work with our Iraqi partners as they continue to increase their capability to protect the Iraqi people from any foe.

"We will help the people of Iraq maintain their right to freedom and the pursuit of a prosperous future for all Iraqi citizens," Webster said. "Our Soldiers know this is right and just."

(Army Spc. Emily J. Wilsoncroft is assigned to the 3rd Infantry Division.)



Fresh powder and very small crowds in the lift lines made for another great ski day.

Photos by Sgt. 1st Class Dennis Beebe



Soldiers from the 1st Satellite Control Battalion show their enthusiasm as they prepare to hit the slopes during SnoFest at Keystone Ski Resort during one of SMDC's ski days Feb. 2.

Photos by Sgt. 1st Class Dennis Beebe



Sgt. 1st Class Chris Breeden, 1st Space Brigade G-3 NCOIC, Capt. Adam Keown, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Space Brigade commander and Spc. Michelle Yeager of 1st Space Battalion get off the lift at Monarch Ski Resort during one of SMDC's ski days Feb. 25.

Photos by Sgt. 1st Class Dennis Beebe

Ski days bu while havin

By Sgt. 1st Class Dennis Beebe
SMDC Public Affairs

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. — With all the world-class ski resorts a few hours drive away, it's a no-brainer that the Soldiers and civilians of U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command would be given several command sponsored "ski days" a year to hit the slopes. Command members are allowed to take a day of leave to get away from their duties and desks, get out into the wide-open spaces, breathe fresh mountain air and leave their worries and deadlines behind for the day.

"The intent is to allow the members of the command to interact socially and experience some outdoor fun in an other-than-work environment," said Steve Overton, training specialist of SMDC Training and Readiness. "We plan several events for large and small groups throughout the year but we leave the actual areas and destinations up to the group that oversees the event. The whole objective is just to get out of the work environment and have some fun, and I believe we achieved our goal," Overton said.

Keystone was the first ski day destination Jan. 13, but with a hard driving snowstorm in Colorado Springs, participation was low and only a few die-hard skiers bothered to trek up to the mountains. It cleared off quite nicely a bit later and fresh powder was available for the few hardy



Lt. Col. Sonny Baltimore, of the G-3 and Maj. Jean Buck with the G-6, prepare their gear before hitting the slopes at Keystone Ski Resort during one of SMDC's ski days Jan. 13.

Photos by Sgt. 1st Class Dennis Beebe

Build cohesion g fun

souls who made the trip through the storm to ski.

Feb. 4 saw a larger group of Soldiers and civilians back at Keystone. This visit coincided with the Peterson Air Force Base sponsorship of SnoFest, a period where all military and Defense Department civilians are provided the opportunity to pick up coupons for discounts on lodging, food, rentals and other services. It was a wonderful day on the slopes. Fresh powder covered the mountains and the packed runs, the sun was out and not a cloud was in sight.

“The ski day was a great event that provided us an opportunity to encourage cohesion within our unit,” said Maj. Cleophus Thomas, executive officer of the 1st Satellite Control Battalion.

“It was an outstanding teambuilding activity and it was nice that some of our commanders and first sergeants from all around the world were in town for a conference and got a chance to participate with us,” Thomas said. “Bruised and beaten by the snow, we still managed to laugh, share stories and have a few drinks on the slopes.”

The last ski day event was Feb. 25, and this time, the group of ski enthusiasts traveled southwest to Monarch Resort. For residents of the Front Range, Monarch is the only ski area that can be reached without traveling over a 10,000- to 12,000-foot pass. It is a bit easier to reach for the members of SMDC and offers runs that meet all skill levels and abilities but still feels very intimate. Fresh powder and very small crowds in the lift lines made for another great ski day.



Photos by Sgt. 1st Class Dennis Beebe

Maj. Jean Buck of the G6 blazes down a snowy run at Keystone Ski Resort during one of SMDC’s ski days Jan. 13.



Photos by Sgt. 1st Class Dennis Beebe

Sgt 1st Class Chris Breeden, 1st Space Brigade G-3 NCOIC, is showing some spirit as he slides down the hill at Monarch Ski Resort during one of SMDC’s ski days Feb. 25.



Photos by Sgt. 1st Class Dennis Beebe

A group of SMDC Soldiers and civilians prepare to hit the slopes during SnoFest at Keystone Ski Resort during one of SMDC’s ski days Feb. 2.

Delta Company completes Operation Chupacabra

By 1st Lt. Ryan R. Renken
Unit reporter

At 2:30 a.m. Pacific Standard Time Jan. 20, Delta Company was alerted. Opposing Forces (OPFOR) had breached the Camp Roberts, Calif., perimeter and Delta Company Soldiers were going into action. "Operation Chupacabra," Delta Company's combat crew training exercise had commenced. Legend says "el chupacabra," which means "the goat sucker" in English, is an animal unknown to science. The creature's name originated with the discovery of dead mountain goats in Puerto Rico with strange puncture wounds in their necks and their blood allegedly drained. Given the legend of "el chupacabra," the OPFOR were divided appropriately into two squads: the "Mountain Element" and the "Goat



Photo by Spc. Curtis Pouliot

1st Sgt. Ottis Pledger sets up an ambush team during Operation Chupacabra for the Goat forces.

Element." The Mountain Element was in charge of testing the Soldiers on their individual skill level one tasks, which test the individual Soldier on things he is required to know. Examples of these items include weapons maintenance, land navigation with a map and compass, basic first aid skills and calling in a medevac for a wounded Soldier. The Goat Element would test the Soldiers on skill level two and skill level three tasks and some force protection tasks. The skill level two tasks are for Soldiers working in a team, and skill level three tasks are those required for Soldiers working in a squad. The force protection tasks included items such as searching vehicles and persons for weapons. Each day two squads were rotated into the exercise. One manned listening and observation posts and the other guarded a gate, participated in a convoy and controlled a crowd. At each site, the squads were put through different scenarios by the OPFOR. Halfway through the day, the squads were recalled and would change places. Immediately, the Mountain Element pounced with a chemical attack on squad one, the Soldiers manning the listening and observation posts. The Soldiers responded by donning their protective masks and navigating to a test point. Once there, they were to find a grader. The grader then presented some scenarios to the Soldier buddy team. No matter what the Soldiers encountered, they always were required to keep in contact with "Rock Base," or the operations cell. The Soldier squads had been briefed before they were moved into position that the OPFOR was a radical environmental group violently opposed to Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger. The OPFOR had been briefed that they were a peaceful group dedicated to the cause of the Kit Fox, an endangered species on Camp Roberts. With the two conflicting briefs, the Soldiers on both sides would be in different states of mind. "We expected the Soldiers to complete the training a little faster than they did," commented 1st Sgt. Ottis Pledger. "The idea was for the Soldiers to accomplish both lanes of training in one day." Navigating the hills at Camp Roberts took

longer than initially planned. "I got in a good leg workout in the nice weather," remarked Sgt. Jamie Alvarez of Delta Company. The fog was quite thick as squad one reached its farthest point. The Mountain Element tripped a series of flares to alert the squad as to when they were getting close. Once at the designated end point, the Mountain Element hit squad one with riot control gas. Once the area cleared of gas, squad one engaged the Mountain Element "wounding" several of them and then tending to their wounded enemies when the conflict was over. While squad one was being tested at the listening and observation posts, the Goat Element was testing squad two which was guarding the gate. Sgt. Khemmony Kong positioned his squad in a 360-degree perimeter around the gate. From the south, a vehicle approached the gate. The Soldiers stopped the vehicle, searched it and the occupants. While the Soldiers were searching, a sniper "opened fire" on them and one of Kong's Soldiers became a "casualty." "It was kind of stressful having to keep my Soldiers focused on the task. When we started taking fire, the stress level really increased," Kong said. Once all the training objectives were met at the gate, Kong's squad loaded up to go contain a crowd forming at one of the gates to Camp Roberts. The Goat Element was staging a demonstration to protest the Army having Kit Foxes. En route to the demonstration, Kong's squad successfully identified an improvised explosive device. However, they were hit with a nuclear, biological and chemical attack. At the gate, the Goat Element made things pretty exciting. "They really got under your skin like real protestors. Even though we knew these guys, they were really making me mad," stated Spc. Salvador Cota who suffered a bruised ego when the OPFOR caused the magazine of his M-16 to fall to the ground. At the end of the training day, the Soldiers of Delta Company were assessed that they could handle some creative tests from the OPFOR and they would be ready to do the training again. Operation Chupacabra tested the Soldiers with real-life situations and gave them a chance to try something different for annual training.

Delta Company demonstrates the legal limit to Soldiers

By 1st Lt. Ryan R. Renken
Unit reporter

CAMP ROBERTS, Calif. — Delta Company, 1st Satellite Control Battalion, proved how serious it is about preventing drunk driving. During the Command Information Call Feb. 9, an off-duty Soldier demonstrated how to use the legal limit breath alcohol detectors. Sgt. Luke Pearson volunteered to be the guinea pig. When the call began, Pearson consumed one beer during the first hour of the meeting. He waited 15 minutes as the directions on the detector stated. Capt. Stacy Godshall, Delta Company commander, then called Pearson to the

front of the company where he was presented with the following scenario. The company had been alerted. One of the junior enlisted Soldiers in the company, Pfc. David Day, had just seen Pearson finish drinking his beer. Day, concerned for Pearson, suggested he take a breath alcohol test. Pearson took the test and passed. Had this been a real alert, he would have been okay to drive to the alert in his own vehicle. Next, Pearson consumed two beers in 30 minutes. After the 15-minute wait time, he was called back in front of the company and presented with the same scenario. This time when he took the second breath alcohol test, the crystals

changed from yellow to a blue-green indicating a higher level of alcohol in his blood system. The second test and an unused one were passed around the company for the Soldiers to see the difference. Delta Company Soldiers now know how to use and read the legal limit alcohol detectors, and have proven that they are doing their part in preventing drunk driving.



Photo by 1st Lt. Ryan R. Renken

Sgt. Luke Pearson of Delta Company, 1st Satellite Control Battalion, blows into a legal limit breath alcohol detector to demonstrate how the detector works at a Command Information Call Feb. 9.

Women change America

Women celebrate their contributions during Women's History Month

By Mary Peoples
SMDC Federal Women's
Program Manager

March has been designated by Joint Resolutions of the House and Senate and Proclamations by five American presidents as the month to celebrate national Women's History Month. During this time, civic organizations, schools, workplaces and communities see this as an opportunity to honor and celebrate women's historic achievements.

Celebrations using the 2005 theme, "Women Change America," recognize women as a powerful force in shaping our history. Through their heroic struggles and powerful contributions, women have forever changed the face of America.

The decision to establish Women's History Month was because most textbooks in schools and other media have omitted to record contributions made by women to the furtherance and development of our nation. The year 2005 marks the 85th anniversary of women in the United States winning the right to vote, and it is also the 25th

Sometimes they paved the way as pioneers; other times they built on the knowledge and work of those who had come before them. Women of all cultural, religious, political, economic and geographic backgrounds are part of the story of how women change America.

How have women changed America? America has been changed by the elegance of dancers like Martha Graham, pioneer of modern dance and by Maria Tallchief, the prima ballerina. Our culture has been transformed by the clarion voices of Beverly Sills and Marian Anderson and by artists like Judith Baca whose urban murals give voice to the importance of public art, and Georgia O'Keefe with her landscapes larger than life, by Maya Lin, whose sculpture and poetry has inspired some of most stunning public memorials including the Vietnam Memorial in Washington, D.C.

As a nation, we have been inspired by bold acts of political courage by women such as Francis Perkins, secretary of Labor, during the Great Depression who provided the vision and leadership that resulted in employment income for American workers and social security protection for older Americans.

Senator Margaret Chase Smith was the only woman in the U.S. Senate in the 1950s to rise on the floor of the Senate Chambers and challenge the witch-hunting tactics of Senator Joseph McCarthy when she delivered her Declaration of Conscience speech. In 1970, Shirley Chisholm, the first African-American woman to be elected to the House of Representatives, took her message of justice and equality to the American people by running for the office of president of the United States.

As we move forward in the 21st century, many of these stories have become a vital part of the telling of women's history. This was not the case in 1980 when less than 3 percent of the content of school textbooks mentioned the contributions of women. Women, when included, were usually written in as mere

First woman provincial governor named in Afghanistan

By Donna Miles
American Forces
Press Service

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Afghanistan President Hamid Karzai appointed the country's first woman governor March 3, coincidentally, during the opening days of Women's History Month.

Karzai named Habiba Sarobi, former minister of women's affairs in the transitional government, as governor of the central province of Bamiyan, according to news reports.

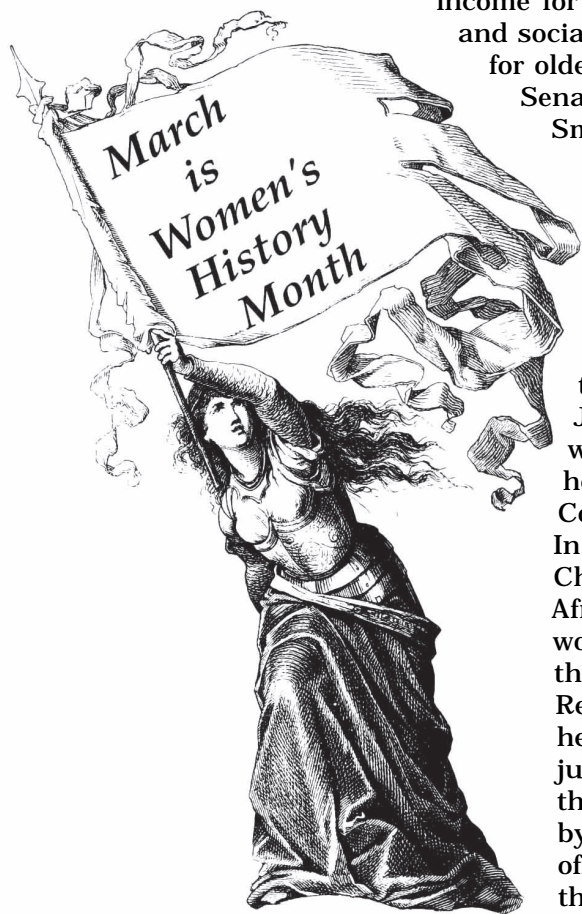
The historic appointment is considered a major step forward for the Afghan government, which is promoting more women in positions of power and encouraging wider political participation among women.

That represents a sea change for a nation ruled for six years by the Taliban regime, which severely limited women's rights until being overthrown by Afghan

and coalition forces. Under the Taliban, women were banned from participating in politics, business and all advanced education.

Deputy Defense Secretary Paul Wolfowitz, in an interview earlier this year, cited the widespread participation of women in Afghanistan's national elections last October as a positive sign of things to come in that country. Of an estimated 8.5 million Afghan voters, about 40 percent were women "who came out and voted even though the Taliban was trying to scare them away," he said.

During a town hall meeting in Kuwait last December, Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld counted the Afghan elections, and the "determination of the women who braved violence and cast their ballots" among the "pivotal moments in history" he said were made possible through the help of America's men and women in uniform.



anniversary of the multicultural women's history movement.

It is essential to remember that women's history is about all women. Throughout our nation's history, women from all of America's cultural backgrounds have been in the vanguard of change.

footnotes to history. For most students, based on their textbooks, women's work and accomplishments were not central to the telling of our nation's history. The National Women's History Project led a movement to have Congress designate a special focal celebration to recognizing women's historic achievements. Knowing who the women are and all they have accomplished challenges the stereotype of women as passive non-participants in our culture and history. Many of the women who changed America were seen in their own times as difficult and controversial. They often challenged the social customs and even the legal rules of the times. Lucretia Mott, the Grimke Sisters, Susan B. Anthony, Sojourner Truth, Harriet Tubman, Clara Barton, Rachel Carson, Harriet Beecher Stowe, Eleanor Roosevelt and Rosa Parks are just a few of these women.

In 1980, President Jimmy Carter issued the first presidential proclamation calling on the American people to pause and remember the contributions of women. By 1987, 14 governors had declared March as Women's History Month, and that same year,

Congress and the president followed by declaring March as National Women's History Month.

This year's theme, "Women Change America," celebrates and recognizes the role of American women in transforming our culture, history and politics. It also honors women as leaders, writers, scientists, educators, politicians, artists, historians and informed citizens.

Learning about the extraordinary achievements of women helps diminish the tendency of some modern day critics to dismiss and trivialize who women are and what they accomplish. The knowledge of women's history provides a more expansive vision of what a woman can do. This perspective can encourage girls and women to think larger and bolder and can give boys and men a fuller understanding of the female experience.

Learn about the service and sacrifice of America's women Soldiers at the U.S. Army Center of Military History's Web site, Women in the U.S. Army, at www.army.mil/cmh/topics/women/women-USA.htm and the Army Women's Museum Web site at www.awm.lee.army.mil.

(Research information provided through the National Women's History Project.)

Fort Greely military police graduate from Dept. of Army Police Academy

By Michele Garrett
Fort Greely Public Affairs

FORT GREELY, Alaska — The Department of the Army Police Academy here graduated six military police officers from the 49th Missile Defense Battalion (Ground-based Midcourse Defense) and nine DA police officers Feb. 18.

The candidates received intensive physical and mental training including weapons handling, safety, survival and defensive tactics, and constitutional, criminal and civil law, according to Maj. Marsha Renaud, operations officer, DA Police. Additionally, the troops trained on use of force, verbal judo, crisis management, expandable baton and pepper spray.

During the graduation ceremony, Lt. Col. Rob Cornelius, garrison commander, and Lt. Col. Greg Bowen, commander, 49th MD Battalion, spoke to the graduates and commended them on their achievements. Bowen commanded a laugh when he proceeded to offer the make, model and license number of his vehicle — “just in case,” he said.

The 49th MD Battlion graduates included Spc. Rosa Ralls (Honor Graduate), Sgt. Jose Medina, Spc. William Christensen, Spc. Tony Craidon, Spc. Todd Godwin and Spc. Michael Manson.

DA police graduates, who work with the garrison command, were Michael Brady (Honor Graduate and Leadership Award), David Crafford, Shawn Eckhart, Stephen Flowers, Bernard Holland, Catherine Nipper, Richard Palmer, Bruce Randolph and James Smith.

Fort Greely surfing net at high speed

By Sgt. Sara Storey
100th Missile Defense Brigade
(Ground-based Midcourse Defense)
Public Affairs

FORT GREELY, Alaska — High-speed cable Internet became available to residents here Feb. 1.

“High-speed Internet access was one of the priorities for the Family Readiness Group and 49th Missile Defense Battalion (Ground-based Midcourse Defense),” said Rich Garrett, director of information management, Fort Greely. “High-speed Internet has become a basic standard of living necessity and there was a large need for it here — more than 150 people signed up the first day it was offered.”

Previously, the only Internet connection available was an archaic dial-up system, according to Lt. Col. Rob Cornelius, garrison commander, Fort Greely.

Cornelius said a cable modem is included with the monthly fee of \$49.99. Customers can be up-and-running within 30 minutes of ordering the service — the modem can be self-installed or installed by a customer service representative. Additionally, technical support has a trailer on Fort Greely to service the needs of customers living on post. Garrett said the installation now has approximately 400 high-speed Internet drops — 150 of these are in residential areas (housing areas and barracks) and the rest are in temporary lodging areas.

“Having high-speed Internet available is a great thing,” said Command Sgt. Maj. David Massullo, command sergeant major, 49th Missile Defense Battalion. “A lot of people do Internet shopping up here and it provides the ability to do advanced schooling — overall it makes a big difference.”

Colonel compares Iraqi elections to U.S. civil rights movement

By Rudi Williams
American Forces
Press Service

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The Jan. 30 Iraqi elections mirrored America’s march toward civil rights, an Army commander said during the February African-American History Month observance on his base.

Iraqi voters have responded to the “challenge for democracy and freedom,” just as African Americans did “to be who we are today and be able to make the contributions that we make each and every day to this great country,” said Army Col. Thomas W. Williams, garrison commander at Fort Belvoir, Va.

People didn’t think the Iraqi elections would work because “there was a lot of stuff on TV that said bombs are going off, IEDs (improvised explosive devices) are out there, and nobody is going to go to the polls,” he said.

But that’s not how it played out in Iraq on Jan. 30, he noted. “Bomb goes off, people jump under the table, jump behind rocks, then, when they thought it was safe, they got back in line and voted,” Williams said.

Likewise, with terrorism posing a threat to our way of life, “we have to wake up and remember that victory is fleeting, and people do want to take away those things we have built in this country,” Williams said.

Building on the example of successful Iraqi elections, Williams challenged students in the audience to “make a difference” when they reached voting age.

Past civil rights struggles for integration and opportunity are “what we’ve gone through to get the right to be able to go to the polls and vote to make a difference in a country we helped build,” he noted.

Williams reminded the audience that Americans — black, white, Asian, Indian, Hispanic and a host of other ethnicities — have come together and are serving the country around the globe.

He also singled out the can-do spirit of a special group — the wounded service members being treated at Walter Reed Army Medical Center and the National Naval Medical Center in nearby Bethesda, Md.

“Our country today is served by volunteer Americans,” Williams emphasized. “Many of them are without arms, legs, and they’re happy to be American with or without those limbs. ... They’re making a major difference with their attitudes and sacrifices.”

The dream Martin Luther King Jr. had for America has come true, Williams said.

“But we can’t be complacent and think there is nothing more we have to do,” he added. “We have to continue to look inside ourselves and at ourselves to make sure we’re giving everybody an opportunity.”

“You’re our future,” he said, addressing high school students in the audience. “You’re going to be the congressmen and women, the presidents, doctors, lawyers, Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines, Coast Guardsmen. So don’t let somebody take the dream away from you.”

Air Force Space and Missile Badge retiring for new cadre badge

By Lt. Col. Mike Powers
Space Operations Officer

The Air Force will soon be retiring the Air Force Space and Missile Badge that has been worn for the past several years. The Air Force Space Cadre Badge will replace it, and initial discussions have begun with the Air Force to set up a similar agreement for wear of the new badge.

The timeline for this is yet to be determined, but the transition will most likely occur in the upcoming six to nine months.

There will be new criteria set for the Cadre badge aligned with the Air Force

concept for how they certify their Space cadre, but it will be based on experience in Space-related assignments and training at a minimum.

It would be premature to provide more details at this point, but the Proponent office is considering how space operations officers can align within their model as one of the courses of action.

It is expected that a larger Army population than the current policy will be authorized to wear the badge, where only FA40s and MOS 25S1Cs (satellite controllers) have been authorized. Since it is a cadre badge, it is logical to expect that all members of the Army cadre would wear it.

A proposal is under development to change wear of the current badge that is being worked at senior levels within Air Force Space Command. Closure is expected within the month and could be approved by summer.

It also opens up authorization for wear to enlisted, warrant officer and additional officer specialties, and is also based on training and experience.

The proposal outlines specialized training and/or certification requirements many of the Soldiers in SMDC complete and entails one year of experience in a Space-related assignment.

Wife of GMD Soldier writes, publishes first book

By Maj. Laura Kenney
100th Missile Defense Brigade
(Ground-based Midcourse Defense)
Public Affairs

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. — Set in the steamy jungles of Panama, Lise Fuller's newly published first novel, billed as an action/adventure/romance, features passages as torrid as the setting.

Fuller, wife of 100th Missile Defense Brigade (Ground-based Midcourse Defense) Capt. Tom Fuller, is justifiably excited about her entrance into the world of published authors. Her book, "On Danger's Edge", released in early February, is selling well, and she's had numerous book signings at locations as varied as B. Dalton's book

store and the Peterson Air Force Base Officers' Club.

As both a military "brat" and wife of a Soldier currently serving, Fuller is an unabashed fan of the Armed Forces, and her novel revolves around a Green Beret hero. She even named him after her husband, guaranteeing some good natured ribbing from colleagues for the real-life Tom — but her reasoning for doing so resonates with everyone who's ever served, or loved someone who's served.

"I wrote this novel while Tom was deployed with 19th Special Forces Group to Afghanistan. It seemed natural to name my main character Tom, and it seemed to keep my husband a little closer while I wrote," Fuller said.

"On Danger's Edge" portrays a woman who is reinventing her life after escaping an abusive marriage. Rorie Lindsay pursues a future in which she will be in control, and in which she can conquer her many fears. Her skills as a photojournalist have landed her an exciting job in the jungles of Central America. Prior to reporting to her assignment, Rorie celebrates her divorce by having an out-of-character fling with a handsome Green Beret. Romantic as well as physical sparks fly, but Rorie refuses to be sidetracked from her commitment to learning to stand alone, and flies to her career-making assignment immediately afterward. The job takes a horrifying turn when she's kidnapped by terrorists. Fate steps in when the A-team sent to save her includes none other than the gallant Tom. What follows is an exciting, fast-paced escape through jungle wilds from both the terrorists and Rorie's own inner demons — assisted by the extremely competent, patriotic and unexpectedly sympathetic Chief Warrant Officer Tom MacCallum.

Are there real life similarities between the main character and her husband?

"Yes," said Fuller. "My husband is a

former 82nd Airborne Division paratrooper who served in DESERT STORM and in post-9/11 Afghanistan. He's my real life hero, and also serves as my military consultant on this book, and the series that will follow. I did take some poetic license with a few aspects of the story, but they were necessary for the development of the plot. And ... it is fiction."

Besides the obvious heroic comparisons, both Toms have personality traits in common, and both struggle with feelings aroused by the untimely death of a best friend. Fuller dedicated "On Danger's Edge" to her husband's friend and fellow combat veteran who died shortly after returning from DESERT STORM.

The character of Rorie also draws from reality. Fuller herself escaped an abusive first marriage, and had to reinvent herself. As a single mother to three children with only a high school diploma, she earned bachelor's and master's degrees and worked her way up to a lucrative career in accounting and management. She also, like Rorie in her book, transformed her appearance through body-sculpting, and today the author competes in local and state competitions.

"You write what you know — at some level there has to be a connection with what you write, so yes, Rorie has some of me in her. But I'd NEVER jump out of an airplane!" said Fuller.

She first wrote for an audience at the tender age of 6, crafting a play that she and friends then put on for the neighborhood. She moved creative writing to the back burner while raising her children and only came back to it after re-marrying.

"Tom's been incredibly supportive. When he deployed to Afghanistan, he said that it looked like the time was right for me to pursue my dream of writing a novel. We agreed that I'd quit my job, become a full-time stay-home mom (to the couple's child, Lise's fourth) and work on writing my book. It was pretty scary in some respects, giving up the career (and the money) I'd worked so hard for, but the timing was right."

Fuller wrote chapters and sent them to her deployed husband, both for checks on military accuracy and for personal critiques. He enjoyed the reading, but the suspense of starting and stopping finally drove him to tell her to hold on until it was completely finished. Once done, the book received his unqualified thumbs up.

"I think guys will even like this — the adventure part is as strong as or stronger than the romance, and it's a great read," said the captain.

Published as what's known in the trades as a "trade" edition, which translates to being slightly larger in size than the typical paperback book, Fuller's novel is on sale at select B. Dalton's and through her Web site at www.lisefuller.com; her publisher at <http://www.bokstobelievein.com/Romance.php>; Amazon.com; Author, Author; local bookstores and, soon, at vendor tables inside Colorado Springs post exchanges. She's had book signings locally and in Denver, and was interviewed about her book on television for a program called the

People House Show.

Fuller has added another commitment to the challenges of being a stay-home mom, author and body-builder; she now also home-schools 13-year-old son Nick. Additionally, she's active in the 100th MDB's Family Readiness Group, and is responsible for their monthly newsletter and any publicity required by the group.

Reed slender, but strong and vivacious, Fuller's energy is almost contagious. So also is her sense of patriotism and love of the military. In fact, she donates a percentage of each book sale to a local organization dedicated to assisting the families of deployed service members called "The Home Front Cares." The organization offers practical and sometimes monetary assistance to families struggling while their service member is deployed, including everything from roadside assistance with car problems to help with an energy bill.

"I always told myself that, if I ever made a go of this writing thing, I would give something back. I chose "The Home Front Cares" because, first, of course, as the wife of a Soldier who has deployed in harm's way twice, I can identify, and second, in this area of Colorado Springs, with five military bases, there is such a huge need with all the deployed Soldiers and Airmen.

"I was very proud of my father, who was a Vietnam veteran. I grew up with the Air Force; in fact, the play I wrote at 6 was 'produced' at Castle Air Force Base in California. Between the way my father helped raise us and the great attitude my husband has toward just about everything, I knew I wouldn't live a mediocre life. I never have, and I want to give back some of what I've been given. Between the pleasure I hope people get from reading my books and from what the sale of those books contributes to this great organization, I like to think I'm giving back to the universe in some way," Fuller said.

As to those steamy-as-a-jungle scenes? Fuller laughed and said, "Some wives join the choir when their husband is deployed."



Photo courtesy of Lise Fuller

Lise Fuller, wife of 100th Missile Defense Brigade (GMD) Capt. Tom Fuller, signs copies of her first novel "On Danger's Edge" during a book signing. The book is an action/adventure/romance.

"I actually did that too, but ALL the writing I did was a way to both stay close to my husband in spirit, as well as fulfilling my life-long dream of writing."

A complete review of Fuller's book is available on her Web site. Information on The Home Front Cares can be found at www.thehomefrontcares.org.

Keller named U.S. Army Military Tester of the Year

By Nell M. Drumheller
Editor, Kwajalein Hourglass

Maj. Winfield Keller, range executive officer, has been named the U.S. Army Military Tester of the Year by the National Defense Industrial Association.

"As a test director, I am responsible for our cost, performance and schedule in support of a test," Keller said.

"The RTS (Reagan Test Site) team must conduct missions, safely and on time; collect all required data and provide the data to our customer; and do all this within budget."

new system such as the test coordinator, data collector, evaluator or test subject.

"I am fortunate to have been able to conduct both developmental and operational testing in previous assignments and here at RTS," Keller said.

NDIA is a non-profit organization whose mission is to provide a legal and ethical forum for the interchange of ideas between the government and industry to resolve industrial problems of joint concern.

"Maj. Win Keller possesses and continually demonstrates outstanding leadership,

all issues have been addressed prior to mission execution. Win is constantly looking to see what issues could arise and takes early action to resolve or eliminate the potential for such issues to impact a test."

Keller identified building a qualified, motivated team as most critical to being a successful tester.

"RTS has created Integrated Product Teams supporting each mission area. Our ability to conduct tests would not be possible without people like Doug Peters and Merrie Beth Schad in KRS (Kwajalein Range Services) Plans and Operations, Claire Wittschiebe in KRS Logistics and other critical government, contractor, customer team members," Keller said.

Daugherty agreed with Keller. "Tests are team events, not executed by any one person or group. Win successfully coordinates with many diverse organizations, both internal and external to the command, in order to ensure timely test support. Staying coordinated is a critical task, with the number of players involved in the kinds of tests we support here at RTS. Win enables communication within the team to ensure that when requirements change — and they always do — all test team members are aware and adjust their support and mission execution plans accordingly," she said.

Recognizing the importance of the mission tests, Keller said, "From the USAKA (U.S. Army Kwajalein Atoll) commander down, regardless of your particular job, ultimately we are all here to conduct or

support the conduct of tests."

Keller's Army career has spanned more than 18 years, and he advises junior officers that the secret to a successful career is "to enjoy what you are doing; get challenging jobs you want and will be happy in because it's a lot easier to do well if you are having fun."

Daugherty described the USAKA mission, "The Army is obviously a part of the Department of Defense, and here at Reagan Test Site we have the opportunity to serve not only the Army directly, but the DOD as well, through ballistic missile test support we provide other services and DOD agencies. It is very important work. Some tests at RTS support improved capabilities for systems the Army either does or will operate, including the Patriot and Ground-based Midcourse Defense systems. Other tests support performance assessment of ballistic missile systems the Air Force or Navy operate. Since we fight as a joint force, those Navy and Air Force systems ultimately serve to protect or defend all warfighters, our Soldiers included.

"Test directors at Reagan Test Site, through the conduct of their duties, help make the Department of Defense's ballistic missile systems the best they can be, and as such it is truly an honor to serve here," she said.

Keller has been on Kwajalein for two years and plans to be here through the summer of 2006.

He has been selected for promotion to lieutenant colonel and is expected to pin on his new rank in early April.



Photo by Nell M. Drumheller

Maj. Win Keller, Reagan Test Site Range executive officer, has been named U.S. Army Military tester of the year.

Tests can be categorized as developmental (verifying the system design meets desired capability), operational (evaluating operational effectiveness and suitability of a system under realistic operational conditions) or live fire testing (assessment of the vulnerability/lethality of a system prior to production). In general, a tester could be anyone involved in testing a

management and problem solving skills," said Lt. Col. Anne Daugherty, range commander.

"Win is adept at understanding complex and interdependent test requirements, pulling together the right group of people to address those requirements, empowering the team to take action to meet requirements, and then following up to ensure

Missile Defense Agency director visits Fort Greely

By Maj. Eric Maxon
GMD Operations Support Group-Alaska
Public Affairs Office

FORT GREELY, Alaska — The director of the Missile Defense Agency, Air Force Lt. Gen. Henry A. (Trey) Obering III, made a point of congratulating personnel associated with the Ground-based Midcourse Defense program during a town hall meeting and tour of the Fort Greely site Feb. 9.

Obering traveled to Fort Greely to take a first-hand look at the progress made on the GMD system.

While on post Obering took time to brief personnel on his vision and the MDA mission as well as what was planned for GMD at Fort Greely in the future.

According to Obering, up to 10 additional ground-based interceptor missiles will be installed at Fort Greely by the end of this year. In fiscal years 2007 and 2008, an additional 10 are planned for emplacement, for a total of 36 by the end of 2008.

During the town hall meeting, several questions were asked, including one expressing concern over how the \$1 billion

MDA budget reduction in fiscal year 2006 might affect GMD.

Obering indicated that the budget shortfall will not affect the GMD program at Fort Greely as the system continues to develop.

Highlighting the real and emerging Intercontinental Ballistic Missile threats that exist, Obering indicated that MDA is actively working to develop multiple systems that can address various scenarios associated with those threats.



Photo by Ramsay Pryce

Lt. Gen. Henry A. (Trey) Obering briefs individuals gathered for a town hall meeting at the Ground-based Midcourse Defense Conference Center at Fort Greely, Alaska, Feb. 9. Obering traveled to Fort Greely to take a first-hand look at the progress made on the GMD system.

B Detachment Staff Sgt. graduates from Warrant Officer Candidate School with honors

**B Detachment
JTAGS Texas**

FORT BLISS, Texas — Staff Sgt. John Peart of B Detachment, 1st Space Company, graduated from the Warrant Officer Candidate School and was promoted to Warrant Officer 1 Feb. 3.

Peart has served in the 1st Space Company for the past two-and-a-half years, first as a Joint Tactical Ground Station (JTAGS) Operations sergeant and crew chief with C Detachment at Osan Air Base, South Korea, and then

as a crew chief and an Individual Qualification Training instructor at the JTAGS schoolhouse at Fort Bliss, Texas.

The Warrant Officer Candidate School (WOCS) is the first level of leader development



Warrant Officer 1 John Peart

training within the Warrant Officer Education System.

WOCS is a six week (30 training days) job specialty immaterial course taught in a high stress environment to assess the potential of candidates to become successful warrant officers.

Peart was selected as an honor graduate from the school and graduated with a 95 percent average.

His next challenge is the Warrant Officer Basic Course at Fort Bliss, where he will undergo Command and Control Systems Integrator training.

Inventors benefit from patents on inventions

Office of Legal Counsel

HUNTSVILLE, Ala. — Did you know that awards may be available for government employees who seek patent protection for their inventions? Did you know that you may be eligible for these awards even if you create an invention during your off-duty hours?

U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command scientists and engineers may create many patentable inventions every year, but may not receive any rewards or recognition for their efforts because they fail to take advantage of the government patenting process.

What are those rewards?

First, you will receive an initial monetary award of \$200 when a patent application is filed in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO). Later, you will receive an additional award of \$500 if and when a patent issues (each government co-inventor will receive a \$250 award).

In addition, if the invention is licensed by the government for commercial use, you (and each government co-inventor) may receive additional income from royalties of up to \$150,000 per year. Furthermore, if your invention results in substantial savings to the government, you may be eligible to receive a suggestion award.

Finally, you will also benefit from the prestige associated with obtaining a patent. A patent reflects an inventor's creativity and ingenuity, and can make you stand out among your peers.

Is your invention patentable?

A patentable invention must be new (not previously known to the public), useful and non-obvious (sufficiently different from technology that was known before you conceived of your invention).

In general, abstract ideas, laws of nature and natural phenomena are not patentable. Although software itself is not patentable, it may be patentable if it is used in a practical application.

Also, an invention is not limited to a device or a product. An invention can also be a process or method that yields a useful result. Patents may also be available for new, original and ornamental designs (design patents) for an article of manufacture (e.g., printed designs in dress materials or a telephone having the shape of a football) and for new varieties of asexually reproducing plants (plant patents).

An invention does not have to involve a pioneering, scientific breakthrough to be patentable. Many patents have been issued for inventions that are improvements made to existing products and technology.

For example, patents issue yearly for improvements related to golf clubs. In addition, it is not necessary to actually make a model or perform a process before filing a patent application, as long as your invention can be described in sufficient detail to permit someone skilled in the technology of the invention to make and use your invention.

How do you report your invention?

Report your invention by submitting an Invention Disclosure Packet to the SMDC legal office.

The documents in the Invention Disclosure Packet may be completed on-line and may be accessed through SMDC's Commandnet portal by selecting the link to the "Inventor's Corner," which is found under the "Quick Look" heading on the home page.

You may also contact the SMDC legal office for electronic copies of these documents.

- The first document to submit

is page one of an Invention Rights Questionnaire (DA Form 2871-R), which you complete if you agree to assign your rights in the invention to the government.

In general, the government owns the patent rights to an invention made by a government employee if the employee inventor made the invention during working hours or using government resources, or if the invention is related to the inventor's official duties. If you do not want to assign your invention to the government, then a determination of invention rights must be performed. Contact the SMDC legal office for details.

- The next document to submit is a Record of Invention to report information such as the invention title, the date of conception of the invention, dates of disclosure to others, etc.
- The third document to submit is the Invention Disclosure, which will include a detailed description and drawings of the invention. The drawings may include block diagrams, flowcharts, test results, etc. The detailed description includes the operation and construction of your invention and must include sufficient detail such that a person with ordinary skill in the relevant technology can make and use the invention.
- Finally, submit an Invention Evaluation Questionnaire, which must be completed by your supervisor.

What happens after you report your invention?

The legal office forwards the Invention Disclosure Packet to an Invention Evaluation Committee (IEC), which evaluates the potential technical value of the invention to SMDC. If the IEC recommends pursuing patent protection, the SMDC patent

counsel will conduct a search of certain publications, such as issued patents, to determine whether the proposed invention appears to be patentable. If the invention appears to be patentable, then the patent counsel will work with you to prepare a formal patent application.

The completed application is filed in the USPTO, where it is reviewed by a USPTO examiner. The patent process takes around two to three years from the time the application is filed in the USPTO until a patent issues.

Can you file a patent application yourself?

If the government decides not to pursue patent protection for an invention it owns, you may seek patent protection on your own and keep title, subject to a license to the government.

Similarly, if you are entitled to all patent rights in the invention, you may seek patent protection on your own, but it can be costly to have a patent application prepared and examined in the USPTO.

A patent attorney or agent may charge around \$2,000 to \$8,000 just to prepare the patent application. The basic USPTO fees required to file the application begin at around \$500.

In addition, if the application is allowed, another fee of \$700 must be paid before the USPTO will issue the patent. However, if the government is interested in the invention and you agree to give the government a license to use the invention, then the SMDC patent counsel will prepare the application and provide representation before the USPTO, and the government will pay the related fees.

For more information, please contact Joan Gilsdorf in the Huntsville Office of Legal Counsel at (256) 955-3213 or DSN 645-3213, or send e-mail to joan.gilsdorf@smdc.army.mil.

Historic first nets Air Force award for Battle Lab team member

Sgt. 1st Class Dennis Beebe
SMDC Public Affairs

PETERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Colo. — A Future Warfare Center Battle Lab team working with the Air Force, for the first time ever used the open Internet to communicate and control a satellite with the Virtual Mission Operations Center during a 30-day exercise in California last summer.

For her work during the Virtual Mission Operations Center exercise at Vandenberg Air Force Base, Calif., in June 2004, Sgt. Tara Tomasino received the Air Force Achievement Medal. The medal was presented during an award ceremony on Peterson Air Force Base, Colo., Feb. 22.

Last May, Tomasino, Staff Sgt. Dale Shoenfelt and Steve Groves from the Battle Lab traveled to Vandenberg Air Force Base for a 30-day period to work with the Air Force Space Battle Lab from Schriever Air Force Base, Colo., 14th Air Force at Vandenberg, General Dynamics and NASA's Glenn Research Center from Ohio.

Her team made history by using the open Internet to communicate and control a satellite in space for the first time with a newly developed concept known as the Virtual Mission Operations Center (VMOC). They used a standard Web environment with Internet Protocols to control both the satellite and its payloads.

The satellite belonged to the University of England at Surrey and is part of the United Kingdom's Disaster Monitoring Constellation. Her team controlled it by a series of communications with the satellite via the Internet from various ground stations.

"We could have controlled the actual path of the satellite during its Commanding Pass. We did not, because the satellite did not belong to us, but the ability is there," Tomasino said.

"During other passes we caused it to record imagery of portions of the United States for us. It was a 'Proof of Concept' exercise to prove we had the ability.

"We were closely monitored by the Air Force's Information Warfare Center during our operations to ensure we remained secure and safe from any hackers," added Tomasino.

The VMOC is designed to maximize the use of information gained from space and allows the users to search existing databases for the information they need.

When the warfighter needs images of the battlefield that either do not currently exist or are too old, VMOC will then take the additional steps to task a satellite to take the necessary pictures desired. The system will then notify the Soldier when the image will be available and transmits the image as soon as it is available. This allows the warfighter



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Dennis Beebe

Sgt. Tara Tomasino, right, with the Battle Lab element of the Future Warfare Center was awarded the Air Force Achievement Medal during a ceremony Feb. 22, on Peterson Air Force Base, Colo. Col. Craig Whitehill, chief of operations, SMDC, presented the award to Tomasino.

another unique asset that was not readily available before.

The idea of troops in the field actually controlling in-orbit space assets to support their operations is no longer viewed as science fiction, it is now science fact.

"It was really exciting to be a successful part of something that has never been done before," Tomasino said. "We used a standard Web environment to talk to a commercial mobile router in space for the first time on June 10, 2004. To actually make history was really neat."

Change of Command for C Detachment, 1st Space Company, proves unique

JTAGS Pacific

OSAN AIR BASE, South Korea

— Charlie Detachment, 1st Space Company, at Osan Air Base, South Korea, is different from most Army units. The Joint Tactical Ground Station detachment's headquarters is more than 6,000 miles away in Colorado Springs, Colo., and the detachment commander is in the U.S. Navy.

The new commander, Lt. Kent Meyer, previously stationed with Naval Networks and Space Operations Command in Stuttgart, Germany, as the Remote Earth Sensing Information Center Officer and crewmember of the Alternate Space Control

Center, relieved Lt. Cmdr. James Brown during the recent change of command. Brown had been commander for two years.

Brown and family are headed to Monterey, Calif., for studies in Operations and Information Science at the Naval Postgraduate School.

As Charlie Detachment welcomed the incoming commander aboard, the members also wished the outgoing commander fair winds and following seas.

Not only is the commander of Charlie Detachment in the Navy, about one third of the crewmembers are Navy, augmented from E Detachment, a companion

detachment to A Detachment stationed in Stuttgart, Germany, with Naval Network and Space Operations Command.

JTAGS PAC provides in-theater Ballistic Missile Defense for the Pacific and more importantly the Korean Peninsula.

Located in the most active theater for ballistic missiles, which includes China and parts of the former Soviet Union, JTAGS PAC is the most active of all the detachments in detecting and reporting missile activity and participating in exercises.

In addition to all of this, the Navy crewmember

rotation for Korea is six months. This constant turnover requires continuous training to maintain the needed proficiency to operate under such a high operations tempo. So for this unique mission with a unique crew make up, a unique leadership is needed. This is where the Navy once again comes in to assist in the mission.

The Navy has been a longtime partner with the JTAGS project from the development and fielding of the initial system to the current support of operators and leadership of the modern JTAGS system. The change of command shows the continuing partnership.



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Carol McLaughlin
Staff Sgt. Timothy Harrell gets pinned by retired Sgt. Maj. of the Army Jack Tilley, left, and Harrell's wife, Melissa.

Retired sergeant major of the Army promotes RSSC Soldier

Regional Satellite Communications Support Center

MACDILL AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. — Promotions are nothing new to the Army, but one Soldier with the Regional Satellite Communications Support Center in Florida will have a promotion story to tell for years to come.

Staff Sgt. Timothy Harrell was serving as the Senior Ground Mobile Forces Satellite Communications manager working mainly with Central Command.

His wife Melissa's father is a retired command sergeant major who had worked with retired Sgt. Maj. of the Army Jack Tilley. Harrell thought it would be great to be promoted by Tilley, so his father-in-law set it up.

On Feb. 2, Tilley, along with Harrell's wife, promoted Harrell to the rank of staff sergeant.

Harrell left for Airborne School at Fort Benning, Ga., Feb. 9 and upon graduation will be assigned to 1st of the 10th Special Forces, Germany.

Huntsville woman part of historic march for civil rights

By Kim Gillespie
SMDC Public Affairs

Black History Month (February) is a special time set aside to honor and recognize African-Americans and their contributions to this nation. For many younger citizens, it is easy to cite or recognize famous African American leaders. But the civil rights movement went far beyond leadership and owes much of its success to the courage of its supporters. Most Americans would not recognize the name Carolyn Harris, but she is one of the tens of thousands of supporters who participated in one of the civil rights movement's defining moments — the Selma to Montgomery Freedom March.

This year marks the 40th Anniversary of the march which began on March 21, 1965, in Selma and reached Montgomery four days later. For Harris, now a contract price/cost analyst for the U.S. Army Space and Missile Command's Contracting and Acquisition Management Office, the changes set in motion by that march seem normal and longstanding, but the memories of the march are still as powerful as ever.

"At that time (1965), we (African Americans) were still denied many rights, including voting," Harris said. According to Harris, these were troubling times, but she was inspired by the courage of civil rights supporters and the message of non-violence.

"I especially want people to remember the important role white activists played in bringing about change. It really made a difference having the white priests marching up front with Dr. (Martin Luther) King (Jr.), and people like Viola Liuzzo (a 39-year-old white activist from Michigan) who was killed on her way back to Montgomery after taking marchers to Selma," Harris said.

Harris was a 14-year old in the ninth grade of St. Jude's Catholic School (the location where the March for Freedom began in Montgomery) in 1965. She begged her mother to let her participate in the Selma to Montgomery Freedom March, but her mother refused to let her go to Selma. "She said it was too dangerous, and she was right," added Harris.

Harris' mother finally relented and told her she could join the march when it reached Montgomery. The Montgomery portion of the march was scheduled to begin at St. Jude's, Harris' school, and end at the state capitol.

"There were tents set up everywhere. People (Montgomery residents) were allowing total strangers to stay in their homes because so many people had come to Montgomery to join the march," she explained. Harris estimated the number of marchers more than doubled after it began in Montgomery. "There were about 30,000 marchers that arrived from Selma, but there were probably twice that number by the time we arrived at the capitol," she said.

Harris remembers being close enough to hear King strategizing before the march began. "I could hear him emphasizing how we needed to link arms and draw closer together as we walked, and that in no way should anyone react to any provocation," she said. Harris also recalls people continuing to join them as they marched. "It was a cause worth demonstrating for."

The causes worth demonstrating for ranged from being denied the right to cast votes in elections to dining in public

eateries. Harris remembers not being allowed to come into the front of a local restaurant until later at night when the white patrons were gone.

Many people would prefer not to remember this painful past. But according to Mary Peoples, Black Employment Program Manager in SMDC's Equal Employment Opportunity Office, sharing and gaining understanding of past wrongs and learning how these wrongs were overcome, and the progress made over the past 40 years, is all part of what Black History Month is about.

"Sometimes it's hard to talk about some of the difficult times, but these experiences are part of our history," Peoples said. "It's important that we pass along this history for future generations."

While civil rights changes began to happen more rapidly after the March for Freedom, things had not changed enough for Harris to feel comfortable attending Auburn University after she graduated from high school in 1968. "I wanted to go to Auburn University, but there was still so much (unrest) going on at that time. I decided to go to Alabama Agricultural and Mechanical (near Huntsville, Ala.) where all my friends were going," she said.

Harris graduated from Alabama A&M with a bachelor's degree in accounting and later earned a master's degree. Shortly after receiving her undergraduate degree in 1971, she began work on Redstone Arsenal in Huntsville, Ala., as an intern in Building 5250. She then moved to a position as an operating accountant in Finance and Accounting where she stayed

for five years. Harris next took a job with P&P Procurement and Production in 1977, and then moved to the Ballistic Missile Defense Organization in 1982. "I've been here at SMDC ever since," Harris said.

Harris is an enthusiastic supporter of Black History Month, but admits she has never formally spoken about her participation in the 1965 Freedom March. She has shared it with her children, who found it hard to believe because of her good natured personality. "They said, 'You were a protestor!' It's hard for the younger generations to understand how much we have achieved since that time," she explained. Harris also shared her experience with some SMDC co-workers on a bus trip

to Birmingham in 2000.

"Mary Peoples arranged for us to go to the Civil Rights Institute and Sixteenth Street Baptist Church during Black History Month, and on the way down, we were talking about the past, and I told them about being in Montgomery at that time," she said.

Peoples remembers Harris sharing the story. "That was probably the first time most of us learned she had been part of the march. The bus ride down to Birmingham might have been the best part of the trip because we shared stories like Carolyn's," Peoples said.

Harris' only regret at the moment is not having photographs from the Freedom March. "I would love to find a place with archived photos or old film from the march so I could see if I could spot myself. I knew I was participating in something special, but I did not realize at the time how much it would change history," she said.



Photo by Kim Gillespie

Carolyn Harris, a contract price/cost analyst with U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command, was one of thousands who participated in the Selma to Montgomery Freedom March in March 1965.



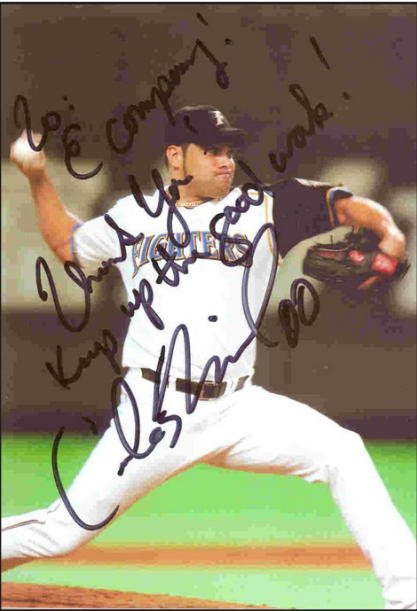
Photo courtesy of AfricanAmericans.com Web Site

Martin Luther King Jr. and wife Coretta lead the march into Montgomery, Ala., in 1965. This year marks the 40th anniversary of the march which began on March 21, 1965, in Selma and reached Montgomery four days later.

Japanese baseball league pitcher visits E Company

By Capt. Eric Setzekorn
E Company, 1st Satellite
Control Battalion

OKINAWA, Japan — Japan is famous for its passionate support of baseball. Living in Japan, it is common to see large groups of Japanese kids



Carlos Mirabal, a starting pitcher with the Japanese Baseball League's Nippon Ham Fighters signed one of his baseball cards for the Soldiers of Echo Company during his recent visit to the company site.

on the way to batting practice or running sprints. Okinawa, because of its great location, is the home of choice for Japanese baseball spring training. The 12-team Japanese League brings all players and coaches to the island for pre-season warm-ups and practice games. Many of the players here move on to success playing for major teams such as the Tokyo Giants or even make it to the U.S. major leagues. One of the players for the Nippon Ham Fighters is Carlos Mirabal. Mirabal, originally from New Jersey, is a starting pitcher for the Ham Fighters and made a recent visit to E Company at Fort Buckner to tour the facilities and express his support for the Soldiers and their mission. Satellite control is a difficult area to comprehend for a regular Soldier and even more problematic for a layman. The large satellite dish and highly technical mission came as a surprise to Mirabal and stirred his interest in the unit. He had the chance to meet many of the E Company Soldiers and speak to them about his



Photo by Vincent Yacono

Echo Company Soldiers Sgt. Brandon Lawson, left, Sgt. Jerome Martinez and Sgt. Stuart Ransom met Carlos Mirabal, a starting pitcher for the Nippon Ham Fighters during a tour Mirabal took of the Echo Company facility. The Ham Fighters are part of the Japanese Baseball League.

experiences in Japan and playing baseball. Mirabal's team plays on the northern island of Hokkaido and is the pride of their home city of Sapporo. He is the second pitcher in their starting rotation and his team has made it to the playoffs for the past several years, but Mirabal hopes to soon make his way back to the United States so he can play closer to his family and friends. Sgt. Jerome Martinez, a non-commissioned officer with E Company's 2nd squad spoke to Mirabal during the tour. "It was nice showing somebody outside of the Army what we do and vice versa. It was fun listening to Carlos' experiences as a professional pitcher and it goes to show that hard work and dedication can prove to be successful in any profession," remarked Martinez. Many E Company Soldiers hope to attend some of the upcoming games on island and return the support and friendship of Mirabal.

Daughter of SMDC member wins first contest cooking up something different

By Sgt. 1st Class Carol McLaughlin
Regional SATCOM Support Center

Brittany Burris is a junior at Zephyrhills High School in Zephyrhills, Fla. She is the daughter of Karen Brown with U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command's Regional Satellite Communications Support Center in Tampa, Fla., and is also a first place winner at the eighth annual Kumquat Festival Recipe Contest. Contest participants had to create an original dish with at least 10 Kumquats in the recipe. This was Burris' first contest and her delectable Crunchy Kumquat Chicken won first place in the meat category. In addition to her obligations as a high school student, Burris attends culinary classes at the Moore-Mickens Education Center in Dade City, Fla. Her current

curriculum there provides credits and assistance at Johnson and Wales University in Miami, Fla., the school Burris plans to attend after graduation. Johnson and Wales is the first university in the United States to offer a bachelor of science degree for Culinary

Arts. Over the next two years, Burris plans to continue perfecting her culinary skills and will enter additional cooking contests in the hopes of earning a scholarship to Johnson and Wales. Her long-term goal is to open her own restaurant.



Photo courtesy of Karen Brown

Brittany Burris during the eighth annual Kumquat Festival Recipe Contest. Burris, a high school junior who takes culinary classes, took first place in the meat category with her original recipe for "Crunchy Kumquat Chicken".

Crunchy Kumquat Chicken

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|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Vegetable oil for frying | |
| 1 1/3 to 2 lb. Chicken tenders | 1 cup all purpose flour |
| 2 eggs | 1 tsp. nutmeg |
| 1 cup milk | 1 cup hazelnuts, finely chopped |
| Salt and pepper | 6 Kumquat zest |
| beaten with mild | |
| plain breadcrumbs | |

1. Heat 1 1/2 to 2 in. of oil over medium-high heat. Season chicken tenders with salt and pepper (to taste).
2. Combine flour and nutmeg in bowl. Combine eggs and milk in another, combine breadcrumbs, hazelnuts, and zest in another.
3. Dip chicken in flour mixture, then bread crumb mixture. Fry tenders 4 minutes on each side or until no longer pink.

Kumquat Dressing

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1/2 cup maple syrup | Salt and pepper |
| 1/2 cup Hawaiian marinade | 3 hearts romaine lettuce |
| 1/2 cup extra virgin olive oil | 6 radishes, thinly sliced (optional) |
| 1/2 cup pureed kumquats | |
| 3 Tbl. Tangy barbeque sauce | |

1. Combine maple syrup, Hawaiian marinade, and olive oil together in mixing bowl and whisk.
2. Add kumquat puree, whisk, add barbeque sauce, and whisk until thoroughly mixed
3. Season with salt and pepper (to taste)
4. Combine lettuce and 3/4 of dressing together.
5. Put lettuce on a plate; lay chicken on top, pour remaining dressing over chicken.
6. Garnish with radishes (optional)